

A community of witnesses

1. Mark 2:1-5. What faith need the men have to carry their friends to Jesus? What faith need the paralyzed man have? How might the paralyzed man gain his faith?
2. Col 3:16-17. How are our words and singing when together powerful in witnessing Jesus? How are our deeds together powerful in leading people to Jesus?
3. Pray for your small group to come together to witness God and bring people to Jesus.

Mark 2:1 A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. 2 They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. 3 Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. 4 Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on. 5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

Col 3:16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts. 17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

== sermon notes ==

(slide 1) It takes a community to bring a friend to Jesus

Mark 2:2 They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. 3 Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them.

1. Mark 2:1 A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home.
2. Sometimes a person needs physical help to see Jesus
3. More importantly, one needs spiritual help to see Jesus
4. It takes a community

(slide 2) Sometimes it takes determination and boldness

Mark 2:4 Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on.

1. Can meet obstacles
2. A community that is persistent
3. A community that is courageous
4. A deep belief that Jesus is Lord and in him there is peace and strength

(slide 3) Our witness can bring the faith needed for someone to come to Jesus

Mark 2:5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, “Son, your sins are forgiven.”

1. The community has faith
2. The men needs to have faith as well
3. Where does his faith come from?
4. That faith is more important than the physical healing
 - a. Says Jesus here

(slide 4) We witness the love of Jesus in speaking and singing to each other

Col 3:16 Let the message of Christ dwell among you richly as you teach and admonish one another with all wisdom through psalms, hymns, and songs from the Spirit, singing to God with gratitude in your hearts.

1. Speak of Jesus with an amazing amount of wisdom
 - a. My experience in Rapid
2. They talked and prayed and sang in the Spirit
3. Their attitude is thanksgiving
4. For GSCC to be a community of witnesses, we need to have that kind of community life

(slide 5) We are a community of witnesses in our word, deeds, and worship

Col 3:17 And whatever you do, whether in word or deed, do it all in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

1. Gentle and encouraging words
2. Gracious and generous deeds
3. Helping out our members
 - a. Rapid helping old lady with concrete
 - b. We are doing well there