



# G R O U P

## DISCUSSION GUIDE

J u l y 1 9 <sup>t h</sup> , 2 0 2 2

### W A R M U P

So far, in the previous chapters in Matthew, Jesus has demonstrated his authority over nature, over human illness, and over the powers and principalities (demons). Healing the paralytic at Capernaum by Jesus in the synoptic Gospels (Matthew 9:1–8, Mark 2:1–12, and Luke 5:17–26) is described differently. What is that difference?

**R E A D**                                      Matt 9:1-8

### A S K

- You may be asking the question that the paralytic must be asking: Why forgiveness and not healing? Why does Jesus forgive rather than heal?
- Read Matthew 9:2-8. How many men brought the paralytic to Jesus? ( see Mark 2:3) What was Jesus' response?
- Why do you think Jesus only said to the one man that his sins were forgiven instead of to all five? (ref. Mt. 9:2, Mk 2:3) What did He see in that situation that we cannot?
- What do we learn about friendship from what these men did for the paralytic? Do you have friends like this in your life? Are you this kind of friend towards others? (ref. Matthew 9:1–8, Mark 2:1–12, and Luke 5:17–26)
- In these passages (Mat. 9:1–8, Mk. 2:1–12, and Lk. 5:17–26) what is the relationship between the friend's faith and their works? How did the scribes react? Why did they react like this?

### P R A Y