

S.O.A.P. Bible Study

July 3, 2011

Scripture

Matthew 9:1-8

Observe

Read the scripture text from Matthew and also the parallel text in Mark 2:1-14. Consider what it would be like as a resident of Jesus' hometown, watching Jesus interact with this paralyzed man. What would your reactions be? Why are the Bible teachers so upset at him? What is so surprising about him saying "your sins are forgiven"? What IS easier to do, forgive sins or heal? Explain. How are healing and forgiving related? According to these texts, what reasons does Jesus give for healing and forgiving this man?

Apply

How does this story mirror your own? See Ephesians 2:1-10. We're not told much about the healed man and how he lived, only that he returned home. How does the healing and forgiveness you've received compel you to live?

Pray

Write out a prayer based on your reflections of this passage.

Use S.O.A.P. Daily

M: Matthew 11:20-30

T: Matthew 12:1-14

W: Matthew 12:15-21

TH: Matthew 12:22-37

F: Matthew 12:38-50

SA: Matthew 13:1-23

SU: Matthew 11:28-30