

Date: March 22, 2026
Series: Mark: The Sovereign, Suffering Servant
Title: The Prince and the Paralytic
Text: Mark 2:1-12



INTRO:

Society is paralyzed by an *identity crisis*—whether afflicted by *gender confusion* or infected with *self-actualization*. The cure for this paralysis is the same *good news* given to the paralytic.

Ultimate Q?s	Man's answers	> results in	God's answers	> results in
<i>Who am I?</i>	random organism	worthlessness	created in His image	<i>precious</i>
<i>Why am I here?</i>	self fulfillment	empty	fulfill His glory	<i>purpose</i>
<i>Where am I going?</i>	decompose in earth	hopeless	destined for eternity	<i>hope-filled</i>

1. His **AUTHORITY** (Mark 2:6-11) Col. 1:15-19, Matt. 26:63-65, Rom. 6:16-19

he returned to Capernaum...

he was preaching the word to them... (Mk. 1:14; preach/teach/proclaim 20x)

the scribes were sitting...

"Son, your sins are forgiven."...who can forgive sins but God alone? He is blaspheming!

¹⁰ But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins" —

"Which is easier, to say... (a) 'Your sins are forgiven,' (b) 'Rise, take up your bed and walk' "

Q? Who/what is master/has mastery over you?

How we define ourselves reveals the ultimate authority in our life.

Q? Who/what is it you obey and submit to?

Q? Do you do so willingly, or under compulsion?

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2. My **IDENTITY** (Mark 2:4-5, 9a, 10b) 1 Chron. 17:16-22, Col. 1:20-22, Gal. 2:20, Rev. 2:17

Q? How is the man defined by others (including Mark)?
the paralytic (5x)

Q? How is he defined by Jesus?

And when Jesus saw their faith, (Mk. 1:15)

(Matt. 9:2) Take heart, my Son,

Q? At what exact point was the man healed? How was he healed?

Q? Why the command to pick up his bed?

Q? Why the command to go home?

That which has authority over us, has the right to name/define us.

Q? Where do you find your value/worth/purpose?

Is it in your profession (what you do)?

Is it in your past–failures or successes (what you've done)?

Is it in your personality (what you want)?

If it is "in Christ", how should that change the way you are currently living now?

3. Our **COMMUNITY** (Mark 2:3-5, 6, 12) Gen. 11:1-19, Ja. 5:13-20, Heb. 10:19-25

they (four men) came, (Mk. 2:3)

Q? Who are your 4 mat carriers, who will get you to Jesus?

the scribes... (Mk. 2:6) also... Pharisees and teacher of the law (Lk. 5:17)

And many, ...the crowd (Mk. 2:2, 4,)

they were all amazed and glorified God (Mk. 2:12)

Q? How might I be "amazed" by Jesus, even "glorify God" in what I say, and yet be far from Christ?

Conclusion: *Riding the Dragon*

Q? Have you been fighting sin alone, in your own strength, in the dark/secret?

Q? What are you willing to do to come out, into the light, and no longer fight alone?