

A PLACE FOR THE HURT TO HEAL

Mar 2:3-12

These 4 men represent the church in action.

The mission of the church is to bring people to Jesus. Our mission statement is not only to bring people to Jesus but also to be " a place for the hurt to heal and a new life to begin".

THE OBJECTIVES OF THE FOUR.

Two could have carried this man, but four did.

4 in the scripture

- 4 barrels of water on the sacrifice when God sent fire down-Elijah
- Ezekiel 1 there are 4 living creatures around the throne.
- 4 winds
- 4 directions on the earth
- New Jerusalem- 4 square.
- Israel camped on all 4 sides of the tabernacle.
- 4 represents God's sovereignty over the affairs of earth. universality

The four must share the same objectives. They must...

I. SHARE A COMMON PURPOSE - UNITY

They must come together. It was not just each bearing a burden but each person carrying his part of the burden in the same direction.

The church cannot make the impact that is needed until we come together. It is not one department competing against another, but helping each person along the way to Christ. Not only must they share a common purpose but also they must.....

II. SHARE A COMMON PASSION - WORK AT REMOVING ALL OBSTACLES.

A. The attitude of the press - "ME FIRST"

"the press" or the crowd - people sometimes get in our way.

The crowd was interested in seeing what Jesus was going to do next. Instead of letting someone have their seat who is not saved or who is sick, they insist they go elsewhere.

B. The burden of the person who needed help. He could not help himself. There are people we are attempting to reach who cannot help themselves. They are overcome with life's struggles, addictions, emotional pain, etc. They have lost hope and it takes someone else to carry them.

B. The roof had to be removed.- It is materialistic. It can be replaced.

The decision had to be made. What is more important, the building or the body? The building or the need?

C. Public opinion did not matter.

Some in the crowd thought Jesus had gone to far. He was forgiving him of his sin. They knew Jesus well enough that he would do something the help this man.

III. Not only must they share a common purpose, and a common passion,

IV. But

V. SHARE A COMMON PLACEMENT- GET HIM BEFORE JESUS

"they let down the bed where the sick of the palsy lay".

A. He was saved - sins forgiven

B. He was healed - He could walk (palsy is paralysis)

- C. He was healed emotionally - He was no longer one who needed help - "he went forth before them all".
- D. He was complete.

He took his bed with him. It became his memorial. A memorial of when he met Jesus. The answer is not in us, it is in Jesus. Therefore he gets the glory.

What happens when we bring people to Jesus?

MAR 2:12 And immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went forth before them all; insomuch that they were all amazed, and glorified God, saying, We never saw it on this fashion.