

"Through the Roof"
Possible Series
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Often times, the difference between IMPOSSIBLE and POSSIBLE is:

- 1. What you're willing to **SACRIFICE** to see it through (**DETERMINATION**)
- 2. The GREATER CAUSE that makes it necessary (MOTIVATION)
- 3. ACTUALLY DOING what needs done (DEMONSTRATION)

BIG IDEA:

You won't KNOW what's POSSIBLE until you SHOW what's MOST IMPORTANT!!

A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them. Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. 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. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves, "Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'? But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins."

So he said to the man, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, "We have never seen anything like this!"

--Mark 2:1-12

What can I do?

- 1. Receive God's FORGIVENESS
- 2. Pray for the "PARALYZED"
- 3. Grab a **CORNER OF THE MAT** when you have the chance
- 4. Let the **HATERS HATE**
- 5 Let go of the **OUTCOME**

C3 Group Questions

Accountability: Were you at church on Sunday to grow and learn? Did you read/listen to the Bible and pray this week on a regular basis? If so, share what stood out to you in your time with God.

Ice Breaker: What's the most resourceful thing you've ever had to do? How did it turn out?

Review: What one thing stood out to you (either helpful, insightful or troubling) from the weekend's message?

Group Discussion:

Read Mark 2:1-12. Imagine you're one of the crowd in the house listening to Jesus. How would you react to Jesus's message being "interrupted"? How do you react when inconvenienced by others, particularly those in obvious need?

How might this story have been different if the men hadn't helped the paralytic? Even though their plan appeared "terrible" by any measure, what impressed Jesus about it?

Read Ephesians 2:8-9. What is God's greatest miracle? If God never performed another miracle EVER, would His greatest miracle still be enough for you?

Read James 2:14-26. In what areas of your life does your faith lack action? Or how is your faith "alive" through your actions?

Why were the teachers of the Law so upset with Jesus? As a follower of Jesus, how might you be misunderstood and even hated by others? How did Jesus respond to them? How might you respond?

The paralytic had a moment of decision: believe in Jesus's authority to forgive and heal, or remain as he was. In what ways do you face a similar choice?

How can this group pray for you this week? Who in this group can you pray for this week?

Next Steps: ("Do not merely listen to the word...Do what it says." James 1:22)

- --This week we said you won't *know* what's *possible* until you *show* what's *most important*. What "impossibility/ies" are you currently facing? Ask God to show you...
 - a) what's possible through Him
 - b) what's most important to Him
- --There's never a bad time to "clean the slate" with God. Pray today to receive/reclaim His forgiveness of your sins.