

More than we bargained for Luke 5:17-26

Sermon notes

In this life we face crisis: times of suffering or pain that can't be resolved by our own resources. In the midst of a crisis, we can either *give up* – settling for the life we have – or *look up* – admitting we can't resolve the problem, turning to Jesus instead. The story of the paralysed man encourages us to come to Jesus with our crisis. However, when we do, we'll get more than we bargained for. The paralysed man was after physical healing, but Jesus provided a deeper, more significant spiritual healing. Sin is our rejection of goodness, truth and beauty themselves; it's cutting ourselves off from love and the life God has for us. Jesus assures the paralytic that his sin is not permanent. It has been forgiven. He's not too far gone, it's not too late for him, he can still find his fulfilment in union with God.

When we come to Jesus with a physical crisis, he might resolve the crisis then and there, or he might resolve it in the age to come. We can't be sure which one it will be. However, we can be absolutely sure that when we come to Jesus, he will do the far greater work of resolving our spiritual crisis. He'll answer the questions we have concerning our purpose, eternal destiny and whether we will ever feel completely fulfilled. Our sins are forgiven, we can be restored to union with God and a life of love and joy.

Questions

1. What stood out to you from today's service?
2. How might you respond?