



Messy Middle |  
05.21.23

**START TALKING | (Find a conversation starter for your group)**

If in a crisis, even at 3 a.m., which four friends would you call?

**START EXPLORING | (Read the Bible)**

Read Mark 2:1-12

- Why did Jesus say to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven" (v. 5)?
- With what results?
- Why did the teachers of the Law get so upset?
- What exactly is the miracle here?
- What new insight about the kingdom and himself is Jesus revealing?

**START SHARING | (Choose a question to create openness)**

- How would you feel if you were the paralytic when your friends decided to help you "drop in on Jesus"?
- In what ways is sin like paralysis?
- What freedoms has Jesus' word of forgiveness given to you?
- Where do you need to hear that word again?
- In this story, do you identify more with the paralytic, his friends or the teachers?
  - Why?

**Start Praying. (Be bold and pray with power)**

How can this group be praying for you this week? Is there an area of your life you need to be the friend who brings someone to Jesus, or are you the paralytic who needs prayer?

**Start Doing. (Commit to a step, and live it out this week)**

Commit to praying every day this week for Pastor Adam and his family.