

Jesus is For You

Over this next month, we are going to talk about how **Jesus is for you!**

Having someone on your side is always a good thing. It's like having that one friend that is super athletic and good at everything they do! When they choose to be on your team you know you are going to annihilate everyone!

[TEACHER NOTE: Give another example specific to your group.]

When someone is for you it means that they are on your side. It means that they choose you and your interests.

They do this by the character or their heart and by the presence that they bring. Presence is a powerful thing! There are so often times that the presence of someone can totally change things.

It's like when you are home alone and you are walking through the house to go open the fridge and you close it and your brother or sister is standing there and scares you! You either cry in a ball, pee yourself or chase them down and beat them with your shoe. Their presence changed the atmosphere.

When your lip singing and you are dancing in your room and singing...Billie Eilish or Ed Sheeran, "SINGING I DON'T CARE.." and you open up your eyes.... and your mom is watching you and she just caught you...

There is something about a person's presence when they show up that changes the atmosphere of the way circumstances or situations can go!

Sports

For us sports nuts, if we were playing basketball and Lebron James or Michael Jordon walked out on the court, that atmosphere changes. Why? Because of the talent that these two have, it changes what can happen.

Good Looking

For those of you that think you're hot stuff and the best looking person on the planet. When you're somewhere and that one person who is better looking than you walks in and they get all the attention!!

Why? Because who they are changes the atmosphere!

Everywhere Jesus went his presence changed people, Why? Because **JESUS IS FOR YOU!**

Mark 2 in the Bible shows us how Jesus is for you!

Mark 2: 1 (NIV)

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.

So here in Mark 2 we have Jesus and there are people everywhere! He is teaching. This was like Black Friday shopping where people were lining up. It was not the line for people to get the new iPhone.

People were lining up to see one person his name was Jesus. People wanted to encounter the power of Jesus. They wanted to see him, they wanted to hear him they wanted to touch him. They wanted to experience who Jesus was.

A crowd of people gathers in front of the house, blocking the door. In this Gospel, crowds often gather around Jesus, but while they might respond with wonder to his miracles, they do not respond by becoming disciples. They are passive and fickle. They are not sure about this whole thing, but they want to know!

People were there for 2 reasons:

Because of who Jesus was and **Because of what Jesus could do!**

Think how awesome that is that people showed up with anticipation in their hearts expecting to see God do something.

You must know though that when a group of people show up, people with problems will show up as well. Jesus welcomed problems. He wanted people with problems to come. Why? Because He is the solution to the problems.

Mark 2:3-4 (NIV)

3 Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them. 4 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.

I want you to think about this... you're at home with a bunch of people getting ready to have a Bible study with Jesus and all of a sudden 4 dudes cut a hole in your roof open and they lower down a dude!!

I can't imagine getting ready to preach then all of sudden I hear a chainsaw go and then boom there is a hole in the roof! It was an awkward moment... just take him back home give him a computer or iPad and let him live steam!

We are having a good service and you bring the downer! Why??

Because these men knew one thing! They knew that Jesus healed and could heal their friends. They knew that **Jesus was FOR THEIR FRIEND!**

Now remember Jesus was in the middle of teaching! He was in the middle of the Bible study. Jesus was busy doing his Jesus thing! However, Jesus was not too busy for this man! Jesus made time.

You ever interrupt your mom or dad when they are on the phone or speaking? Or maybe you interrupt your friend when they are texting or watching a movie? Or what about when you interrupt the teacher when they are teaching? They don't like that. They don't like to be interrupted.

They tell you to go away.

They tell you to leave them alone

They tell you they are too busy.

They tell you to wait till later.

[TEACHER NOTE: Say something along these lines: I will be honest; I do this sometimes! Sometimes those are my excuses when people need my help and I don't feel like it.]

One thing is very clear to me when I read about Jesus, it's crystal clear that **Jesus makes time for you!**

Jesus won't tell you to go away.

Jesus won't tell you to leave Him alone

Jesus won't tell you He is too busy.

Jesus won't tell you to wait till later.

Jesus made time for this man! Right in the middle of the teaching. In the middle of the crowds, in the middle of the busyness. Jesus made time, because **Jesus is for this man!**

Mark 2:5, 11-12 (NIV)

5 When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man,

11 "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." 12 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!"

Here we see that Jesus speaks to this man and because he is for this man Jesus says, rise and walk and go!

Jesus dealt with the inside and then he dealt with the outside and that's what he still does today. He says let's get your inside all cleaned up and then let's work on getting that outside put back together for sure!

What I see in this story is that this one guy only had a few friends that were for him. He had a close circle of friends that cared enough about him to get him to Jesus. They were so desperate in getting their friend to Jesus they did the unthinkable to make it happen. As soon as this man encountered Jesus his life was changed. Why? Because Jesus made time for him.

ASK WORSHIP TEAM OR WORSHIP LEADER TO PLAY.

Let me just talk straight to you for a moment...

When we are told someone is FOR ME, we have a hard time understanding that in today's society.

So many people have said one thing and done another, me included.
Maybe even you have.

When we have no one that stands with us we feel alone, isolated like we will never make it. What is crazy is you live in the most social interactive society the world has seen, yet you still feel alone. It doesn't matter how many likes or how many follows you get. At the end of the day you feel like no one is there for you.

We are seldom alone but we often feel we are alone.

We need to remember that **Jesus is for you!** Meaning you are not alone!