**JESUS’ AUTHORITY TO FORGIVE SINS**

Luke 5:12-26

Key Verse 5:24 “‘But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins…’ He said to the paralyzed man, ‘I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.’”

1. How did Jesus show compassion on the man with leprosy? (12-15) Why did Jesus tell the man not to tell anyone? Why is it significant that Jesus often withdrew to lonely places and prayed? (16)

2. Why did the Pharisees and teachers of the law come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem? (17) In spite of their presence, what did Jesus continue to do?

3. How did some men overcome obstacles to bring a paralyzed man to Jesus? (18-19) How did Jesus view their actions? (20)

4. How did Jesus view the paralyzed man? (20) Why did Jesus say, “Your sins are forgiven,” instead of healing his physical problem? How does the paralyzed man represent a powerless sinner?

5. Why did the Pharisees think that Jesus was speaking blasphemy? (21) How did Jesus demonstrate his authority to forgive sins? (22-24)

6. How did the paralyzed man respond to Jesus’ command? (25) How did the people respond? (26)