

Those Who Need a Physician
Mark 2:1-17; Rom.3:21-24

0.0 Introduction

- 0.1 When do you seek medical care?
- 0.2 Jesus drew a parallel between patient needs and deep soul needs
- 0.3 So, who is ill/unrighteous in this analogy? (and consider Rom.3:23)

1.0 The Need to Be Restored (Mk.2:1-11)

- 1.1 Everyone has needs, routine and particular
- 1.2 Four faithful friends + portable bed
- 1.3 Roof thatching or sod tiles?
- 1.4 “Your sins are forgiven” – particular or general?
- 1.5 Contemptuous “this [fellow]” in v.7
- 1.6 Accidental truth (v.7): God alone absolutely forgives (Ex.34:6f; Ps.103:3; 130:4)
- 1.7 ‘Proof in the pudding’: harder task is tangible verification

2.0 The Need for Purpose & Belonging (Mk.2:13-16 – see also Matt.9:9-13)

- 2.1 Why did Levi/Matthew leave his tax booth so readily? (2:14; Matt.9:9)
- 2.2 A curious guest mixture: “tax collectors & sinners” (2:15) – Pharisees outside? (v.16)
- 2.3 ‘Birds of a feature’ tend to associate with own kind
- 2.4 Those who are whole occupy better position to do some stretching

3.0 The Need for Available Service – Then and Now

- 3.1 Jesus’ service hours: ‘speaking the Word’ (2:2), and much more – inside & out
- 3.2 Home & food (2:1,15): from synagogue (1:29) to three homes (1:29-31; 2:1,15), assigned to Simon’s family, Matthew and Jesus (?) himself
- 3.3 A healthy determination: do good despite negativity in the environment
- 3.4 Perhaps this account can help a church affirm its particular calling/vision

Next week (Oct.9) – Bridegrooms and Bread Grains - Mark 2:18-28