

Week 3 Discussion Guide

Reviewing the Message

In this week's message, we talked about how excuses often hold us back, but faith moves us to action. The story in Luke 5:17–26 showed us how a group of friends refused to let obstacles stop them from bringing their friend to Jesus. Let's reflect on the key points of the message.

- 1. What stood out to you most from the message or from Luke 5:17–26?
- 2. Why do you think excuses are described as "dishonesty dressed up as wisdom"?
- 3. How did the friends of the paralyzed man show that people mattered more than excuses?
- 4. What was significant about Jesus forgiving the man's sins before healing his body?
- 5. How did the crowd respond after witnessing the healing, and what does that reveal about the ripple effect of faith?

Connecting to the Message

Sunday's message reminded us that we all have "one more" that God is calling us to reach, and excuses often keep us from stepping out. Let's explore how this truth connects with our daily lives, relationships, and faith journey.

- 6. What are some common excuses we make when it comes to sharing our faith or inviting someone to church?
- 7. Can you think of a time when you let excuses keep you from doing something God was nudging you to do? How did that turn out?
- 8. How do you see parallels between the paralyzed man's need for healing and the deeper needs in people's lives today?
- 9. Why do you think Jesus often goes after the "deeper problem" in our hearts rather than just surface issues?
- 10. How does the faith of others like the paralyzed man's friends encourage or inspire your own faith?

Applying the Message

Sunday's message challenged us to move past excuses and take action to bring "one more" to Jesus. Let's identify practical steps we can take as a group and as individuals.

- 11. Who is the "one more" person God has placed on your heart this week?
- 12. What excuses do you personally need to overcome in order to invite or reach out to them?
- 13. What are some creative or bold ways we can show love and point people to Jesus, even when obstacles are in the way?
- 14. How can we encourage and support each other in taking these steps of faith?
- 15. What specific action will you commit to this week to bring your "one more" closer to Jesus?