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DESPERATE FAITH

The story is told in Mark chapter two about a man that was sick of the palsy. Palsy is a state of paralysis. He could do nothing for himself, but he had four friends that cared about him. They were desperate to see him receive his healing.

Jesus had come into Capernaum and was in a house. The four friends heard Jesus was in town, and had heard of the miracles he had done, so they took their friend to Jesus. There was a crowd gathered in and around the house. There was no room for anyone. Jesus was preaching the word to the crowd when this man's friends took action. They went up on the roof and uncovered it. It was probably a thatched roof, and they displaced the roof enough so that they could get their friend on his bed through the roof and lowered him on the bed through the roof. Jesus saw what was happening and in Mark 4:5 it said, ***"When Jesus saw their faith (the faith of the friends) he said unto the sick of the palsy, Son, thy sins be forgiven thee."***

This made the religious scribes angry because in their hearts they said in verse 7, ***"...who can forgive sins but God only?"*** They had no clue who Jesus was.

Jesus perceived what they were thinking and continued on. In verse 11 he said to the paralyzed man, ***"I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house."*** The man with the palsy acted on Jesus' words and He was healed immediately. He took up his bed and went forth.

The paralyzed man's friends had determined faith to get him to Jesus. This is the kind of faith that each of us should have. We should never give up when it looks like there is a closed door, (or roof, as in this case!). We must press into God's promises and do whatever it takes to bring results. This is determined faith my friends. The four friends were never the same and neither was the paralyzed man. Be determined to receive even if you must go to extreme measures like these four did to get results.