



09.17.2023
MAKE AN OPENING
Discussion Guide

BIG IDEA

Have you ever been in a situation that you did not get yourself out of, but rather, it was the work of those around you that saved you? That is the Bible story of a lame man who was healed through the dedication and faith of his friends. In today's sermon, Pastor Dino Rizzo, Executive Director of Association of Related Churches (ARC), uses this passage to teach about the importance of friendship and how meaningful relationships can foster healing.

SCRIPTURES USED IN THE MESSAGE

- Mark 2:1-12
- Proverbs 17:17

TALK IT OVER

Choose questions that keep the discussion moving. No need to discuss every question.

- What makes someone a good friend?
- Can you be a good friend without taking your friends to Jesus? Why?
- In Mark 2, what do you suppose the people below were thinking while the man on the mat's friends were digging through the roof?
- What was the general spirit of the people in the room? How did Jesus respond to it?
- What does it mean to have awareness? What are some ways you can be mindful of the experiences of those around you and not solely focus on yourself?
- How could you make an opening by showing up, lifting up, teaming up, and never giving up?

APPLICATION IDEAS

- What is something you can do to create an opportunity to take someone to Jesus this week? Decide to do it regardless of the obstacles that come.

PRAYER FOCUS

At Lifepoint, we pray until something happens. Make time in every group meeting to pray for one another and the larger matters of concern to your group.

- Pray this week that God shows you ways to introduce Him to the people in your life and for the courage to make the introduction.

LEADER TIPS

- (Potential Ice-Breaker Question) Describe the planning you had to do for a major event in your life? Who was involved with you in the planning and preparation? Why were you willing to devote significant time and energy to make it happen?