



## DIVINE ENCOUNTERS

*Open your group with prayer*

What is your response to a crowd?

(Avoid them / Tolerate them / Prefer them)

*Lesson Overview:*

## PARTY OF FIVE

In Mark chapter two, a large crowd has gathered outside a house in Capernaum. Inside the house Jesus is teaching when the roof starts to crumble. On top of the roof are four men who are digging a hole in order to get their paralyzed friend to Jesus for healing. Jesus is moved by the faith of these men, and he encounters the man that is paralyzed. This "divine encounter" changed the man's physical and spiritual condition forever. In this story there are several spiritual lessons that we can learn for our lives today. Let's look closer at the story and see what it teaches us.

Read Mark 2:3-4. How did the tenacious attitude of the paralyzed man's friends impact his life and future?

Who are some friends in your life that you feel you could call on when facing a need you can't meet yourself?

Contrast and compare the difference between the attitude of the man's friends versus the attitude of the scribes.

Which was more important – the man's physical healing or forgiveness? Why?

Read Mark 2:10. Why did Jesus heal this man?

Explain the importance of the crowd and small group in the story of the paralytic. How do we see those environments operating in our church today?

Which person in the story do you identify with the most – the paralyzed man, his friends, the scribes, the home owner? Why?

***Share prayer requests and pray together.***

***For details on all upcoming events, scan the QR code to visit our website!***

