

STRENGTH IN NUMBERS.



The Right Kind of Friend

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Don't be deceived, bad company corrupts good character.

1 Corinthians 15:33 (CEB)

*One who has unreliable friends soon comes to ruin,
but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.*

Proverbs 18:24 (NIV)

Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man

When Jesus returned to Capernaum several days later, the news spread quickly that he was back home. Soon the house where he was staying was so packed with visitors that there was no more room, even outside the door. While he was preaching God's word to them, four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat. They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My child, your sins are forgiven."

But some of the teachers of religious law who were sitting there thought to themselves, "What is he saying? This is blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!"

Jesus knew immediately what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts? Is it easier to say to the paralyzed man 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk'? So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!"

And the man jumped up, grabbed his mat, and walked out through the stunned onlookers. They were all amazed and praised God, exclaiming, "We've never seen anything like this before!"

Mark 2:1-12 (NLT)

The Right Kind of Friend



THE RIGHT KIND OF FRIENDS:

1. COME CLOSE WHEN PEOPLE ARE HURTING

*A friend loves at all times,
and a brother is born for a time of adversity.*

Proverbs 17:17 (NIV)

2. DON'T TAKE NO FOR AN ANSWER

They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head...

Mark 2:4 (NLT)

3. DO WHATEVER IT TAKES TO GET THEM TO THE PRESENCE OF JESUS

...Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My child, your sins are forgiven."

Mark 2:4-5 (NLT)