



SDG Discussion Guide

Luke 5:17-26

May 19, 2019

For Starters:

What illness or injury has worried you about receiving? Why do you think?

Who were your closest friends in school? What is a memorable activity you did together?

What is the best thing that happened to you this past week? Elaborate.

Guideline: The following is meant to provide an approach for further interaction with the respective sermon text and surrounding passage. Feel free to forward to your small group members ahead of the respective Sunday. Group members may also find this write up in print on that Sunday.

First, as you can, read aloud the selected passage in your group. If you have time, read it aloud a second time - from a different Bible translation.

Before you begin your discussion, pray and ask God to speak to your group. Notice, what may God be highlighting for your discussion and learning?

Now that you have read the text together and prayed, what points and questions arise? Spend plenty of time in your group to address these points and questions. Explore and see how God may steer the discussion. The following are further questions you may use to guide your interaction with the text.

1. How might the Pharisees and teachers have felt in verses 17-19? Verse 20? Verse 21-23? Verse 24-26?
2. The man came for *healing*, so why did Jesus raise the issue of *forgiveness*?
3. What new realm of Jesus' authority is demonstrated here?
4. What motivates the Pharisees to respond as they do to the situation?
5. Who are you most like in this story? Why?
6. What challenges you most in this story? Elaborate.
7. Where in life do you feel you may need to surrender some control and let a caring other take a greater role whereby God may bring in greater healing in your life?
8. Are you a little paralyzed - spiritually, relationally, emotionally? What needs to happen for you to "take your mat and go home"?

Pray for one another without ceasing. Hold nothing back in your pleading to God for help in whatever you believe you need right now. Go forth once more this week, believing and knowing evermore that God sees you, hears you, and loves **you**.

*These questions were adapted from *The Serendipity Bible for Groups* (Zondervan, 1998).