



Cuyahoga
Valley Church

SERMON STUDY GUIDE

Week of 10.19.25

Mark 2:1-12 // Joe Valenti

Please take the opportunity to revisit the CVC Equip
Portrait of a Healthy LifeGroup on a regular basis

CONNECT (10 MIN)

- ① In the beginning of his sermon on Sunday, Pastor Joe shared that his mom used to occasionally say to him, “Who do you think you are, buddy?” Can you think of a phrase that your parents would say to you when you were growing up when they had need to correct or challenge your thinking or actions? Do you ever find yourself saying this or thinking it to yourself, even today?

EXPLORE (30 MIN)

Create Context (5 min):

HERE is the Sermon Recap video playlist on Vimeo, which includes the recap video from this week.

Study & Discussion (25 min)

Read Mark 2:1-12.

- ② In the sermon, we considered three main points:
1. When faith refuses to quit (vs. 3-4)
 2. When doubt refuses to move (vs. 5-7)
 3. When God refuses to stay silent (vs. 8-12)

Which of these main points especially stood out to you or impacted you on Sunday, and why?

- ③ On Sunday, Pastor Joe said of the paralytic’s friends, “Nobody does this (lowers someone through a roof) unless they believe that Jesus is actually capable of doing something.” Later, he went on to tell us that the faith of the friends “is full of verbs.” He asked the question to us, “What do your verbs communicate about what you believe? Because talk (on its own) is cheap.”
- What especially stands out to you about the friends’ response to Jesus, and their care for their friend in wanting to make sure Jesus noticed him?
 - What do you think the “verbs” in your life (your actions) currently say about what you believe about Jesus? What do you want them to say? How, if at all, are your answers to these questions different?



- ④ Pastor Joe stated in his sermon on Sunday that Jesus “consistently sees those whom others might overlook... Jesus never sees them as interruptions. He always sees them as invitations to share (and show) God’s mercy.”
- What are some other stories that you can think of in Scripture that show this statement to be true - that show how Jesus sees the people around Him not as interruptions, but as people worthy of receiving God’s love and mercy?
 - When and where are you tempted to see people as interruptions? Why do you think this can be such an easy thing to do?
 - What can you do as an individual to help you see others the way that God does? What can we do to grow in this area together as a church?
- ⑤ Pastor Joe talked about two kinds of people that we see in our passage from Sunday: 1) people who move in faith, and 2) people who sit in doubt. He reminded us that our actions reveal what we believe.
- Where in your life right now are you tempted to sit in doubt?
 - Where in your life right now is the Holy Spirit prompting you to move in faith? Be as specific as possible in your answer.
 - What do your actions right now reveal what you believe about Jesus in the areas of your relationships, your work, and your home?
- ⑥ Toward the end of his sermon, Pastor Joe invited us to answer for ourselves - who do you think Jesus is, and how can you share it with others?
- Take a moment to answer this question now, particularly focusing on the second part - how can you share with others the reality of who you think Jesus is and how that applies to your life and your “verbs” or actions?
 - For support in considering this question, you can visit <https://cvonline.org/sundaysessions/> and listen to our most recent series, taught by Send Director Tony Scialabba, entitled “How to Share Jesus: A Guide to Gospel Conversations.”

PRAY AND APPLY

1. Pray that those attending would recognize Jesus' ultimate authority—not only to heal bodies, but to forgive sins and restore souls.
2. Pray that faith would move people to action today—that they would bring their needs, their loved ones, and their doubts honestly before Jesus.
3. Pray against hearts that are content to sit in doubt. Ask that the Holy Spirit would stir conviction and awaken spiritual movement toward Christ.
4. Pray that our congregation would grow in compassion for those who are overlooked, marginalized, or living with physical or emotional limitations.
5. Pray that as Pastor Joe preaches, people would be confronted with the question, “Who do you say that Jesus is?”—and that many would respond in faith and surrender.

RESOURCES

1. The Gospel Coalition Course - Knowing the Bible: Mark
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/course/knowning-bible-mark/>
2. Got Questions - What does the Bible say about suffering?
<https://www.gotquestions.org/Bible-suffering.html>
3. The Gospel Coalition - “The Leper’s Cleansing and our Salvation” by Matthew Emadi
<https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/article/lepers-cleansing-our-salvation/>
4. Information on Giving at CVC (to view our FAQ scroll to the bottom of the page)
<https://cvconline.org/give/>



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WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Week of 10.19.25

Please take a moment to share
these announcements with your group.

WORSHIP ARTS

Worship Arts Auditions: October 28

Do you have a heart for worship and a passion for using your musical gifts to lead others? Join our Worship Arts Team! You can serve on the vocal or instrumental teams to help create an engaging, Christ-centered worship experience for our church family on Sunday mornings. Whether you sing, play guitar, keys, drums, or another instrument, your talents can help point people to Jesus and inspire authentic worship. Please note: This is an auditioned role. Sign up [HERE!](#)

NIGHT OF PRAYER

Night of Prayer: November 5

Join us for a Night of Prayer on November 5 as we seek God together, guided by James 5. We will begin by praying for the lost, remembering that while Jesus cares about all suffering, He cares most about eternal suffering. Next, we will pray for the strength to learn to suffer well, relying on God's wisdom and presence in every season. Finally, we will lift up the sick, trusting in God's power to heal—sometimes immediately, sometimes gradually, and sometimes fully in eternity. This will be a powerful night of intercession, reflection, and unity as we lift our hearts to God

CVC YOUTH

High School Fall Retreat: November 21

Escape the noise, slow down, and press in—Fall Retreat is here. Three days away with your friends and leaders, incredible worship, and teaching that will challenge and encourage you. This is the weekend you'll look back on all year—don't miss it. More details will be released as we get closer to the event!

CVC Youth Bowling Night: December 7

Strikes, spares, and endless laughs—CVC Youth is going bowling! Invite your friends and join us for an epic night of competition and fun on Sunday December 7 at 6:00pm. Whether you're a pro or you just want the nachos, this night is for you. Price: \$5 per person. Location: North Woods Lanes Bowling Center, 10435 Valley View Rd, Macedonia, OH 44056