

Faith That Risks  
Having a "Through The Roof" Faith  
Mark 2:1-12 (page 700)

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There are five "players" and five perspectives in this story...

- There is Jesus where the focus is faith and authority (2:5, 8-11)
- There are the friends of the paralytic who want to bring their friend to Jesus (2:3-4)
- There is the paralyzed man who wanted wholeness (2:12)
- There are the religious leaders who are concerned for their tradition and religious institutions (2:6-7)
- There is the crowd who find themselves amazed and wondering about God (2:12)

Having a "Through the Roof" faith means that we will:

- Share a common cause (2:2)
- Be in agreement about the goal (2:3a,b)
- Work together to bring others to Jesus (2:3c)
- Be determined in spite of the obstacles (2:4a)
- Be creative in our approach (2:4b)
- Be willing to take the risks necessary (2:4c)
- Be willing to let Jesus have the glory (2:12)

Getting personal...

Who are you like in this story?

- The religious leaders who are more concerned with protecting your *traditions and attitudes* than you are about the *need of others for Jesus*? \_\_\_\_\_  
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- The crowd who present obstacles for others to come to Jesus?  
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- The paralyzed man who wants to *meet Jesus* and *be made whole*? \_\_\_\_\_  
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- The friends of the paralyzed man who *refuse to let any obstacle or barrier hinder them* from getting others to Jesus?  
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Do you aspire to have a *faith that risks* or will you be satisfied with a *faith that is inactive*? Why? \_\_\_\_\_  
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