**How great is our God – Luke 5:20**

**Focal Truth: Jesus Christ is the source of God’s forgiveness for sin**

When did you last consider the greatness of God’s forgiveness for sin?

Have you experienced God’s forgiveness as a lost sinner? Saved sinner?

**Observations**

1. **Seeking sinners come to Jesus for forgiveness of their sins 5:18 -19**

 *And some men were carrying on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were trying to bring*

 *him in and to set him down in front of Him. But not finding any way to bring him in because of the crowd,*

 *they went up on the roof and let him down through the tiles with his stretcher, into the middle of the crowd*

 *in front of Jesus…*

1. The paralytic – came to Jesus as a physically paralyzed sinful man
2. The woman who was the great sinner came to Jesus - Luke 7:48
3. Most don’t seek forgiveness because they don’t believe they need forgiveness
4. Most don’t seek forgiveness because they seek other things
5. Most don’t seek forgiveness because they think God will overlook their sinfulness
6. Most don’t seek forgiveness because they excuse their sinfulness
7. **The Lord Jesus Christ forgives the sins of those who repent and believe in Him 5:20**

 *Seeing their faith, He said, friend, your sins are forgiven you*

1. Jesus saw their faith
2. Jesus forgave the sinful paralyzed man – “sins are forgiven” Lit. forgiven = “sent away”
3. Jesus spoke kind words of forgiveness of sin – “friend”
4. Acts 10:43 – of him all the prophets bear witness that through His name everyone

 who believes in Him receives forgiveness – Gr. Aphesis = release - of sins

1. **The Lord Jesus Christ is the only one who can forgive sins because He is God 5:21**

 *The scribes and the Pharisees began to reason saying, who is this man who speaks blasphemies?*

 *Who can forgive sins, but God alone?*

1. Luke 7:49 – who is this man that even forgives sin?
2. Ex. 34: 7 – who forgives iniquity, transgression and sin
3. Ps 103:3 – who pardons all your sins
4. **The Lord Jesus Christ has complete authority to forgive sins by his death on the cross 5:24**

 *But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins,*

 *He said to the paralytic, I say to you, get up, and pick up your stretcher and go home*

1. Matt. 26:28 – for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins
2. Heb. 9:22 – all things are cleansed by blood, without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness
3. Eph. 1:7 – in Him we have redemption through His blood the forgiveness of our trespasses
4. **The forgiveness of sin comes immediately through Jesus Christ 5:25**

 *Immediately he got up before them, and picked up what he had been lying on, and*

 *went home glorifying God*

1. The forgiven man experienced great forgiveness
2. The forgiven man experienced full forgiveness
3. The forgiven man experienced God’s forgiveness
4. The forgiven man experienced permanent forgiveness

**Things to Remember**

1. Repentant sinners become forgiven sinners
2. God’s great forgiveness comes from Jesus Christ the Lord
3. God is glorified in forgiving sinners – Isa. 43:25 – I even, I am He who blots out your transgressions for my own sake
4. Forgiven sin is forgotten sin by God – Heb. 8:12 – for I will be merciful to their iniquities, and I will remember their sins no more
5. Great love for God comes from the greatly forgiven by God – Lk. 7:47 – her sins which we many have been forgiven, for she loved much…

**Daily Use**

1. Turn from your sin & believe in the Lord Jesus to be forgiven of your sin
2. Rejoice in the forgiveness of God given to you in Christ Jesus
3. Think deeply on God’s great forgiveness for your sin

Ps. 85:1- 2 – O Lord, you showed favor to your land, you restored the captivity of Jacob. You forgave the iniquity of your people, you covered all their sin!