

Make Room in Your Strength!

Make Room, Pt. 11

Mark 12:30-31, Mark 2:1-13

October 22, 2023

Mark 12:30, *Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.* **31** *The second is this: 'Love your neighbor as yourself.' There is no commandment greater than these."*

Mark 2:1, *A few days later, when Jesus again entered Capernaum, the people heard that he had come home. 2 They gathered in such large numbers that there was no room left, not even outside the door, and he preached the word to them.*

How to Make Room in Your Strength:

1. Bring People to JESUS

Mark 2:3, *Some men came, bringing to him a paralyzed man, carried by four of them.*

1 Peter 4:10, *Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms. 11 ...If anyone serves, they should do so with the strength God provides, so that in all things God may be praised through Jesus Christ. To him be the glory and the power for ever and ever. Amen.*

2. Remove the Obstacles in Their PATH

Mark 2:4, *Since they could not get him to Jesus because of the crowd, they made an opening in the roof above Jesus by digging through it and then lowered the mat the man was lying on.*

5 C's for Overcoming Obstacles:

- Compassion for the HURTING
- Conviction That Jesus is the ANSWER
- Commitment to the TASK
- Creativity to Find a WAY
- Cooperation for the CAUSE

3. Believe God Will Bless Your EFFORT

Mark 2:5, *When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."*

1 Timothy 1:12, *I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who has given me strength, that he considered me trustworthy, appointing me to his service.*

4. Don't Let Others DISCOURAGE YOU

Mark 2:6, *Now some teachers of the law were sitting there, thinking to themselves 7 "Why does this fellow talk like that? He's blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" 8 Immediately Jesus knew in his spirit that this was what they were thinking in their hearts, and he said to them, "Why are you thinking these things? 9 Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'?"*

1 Corinthians 15:58, *Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain.*

5. Celebrate Every Life That Is CHANGED

Mark 2:10, *But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins.” So he said to the man, 11 “I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home.” 12 He got up, took his mat and walked out in full view of them all. This amazed everyone and they praised God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”*