

# “Weapons of Warfare”

Script - Eph. 6:10-13

A. There are stresses that we all face with the Corona virus

1. Financial
2. Family relationships
3. Housing
4. Education
5. Goals; personal and professional

B. The story of the paralytic carried by four friends (**Mk. 2:1-12; Lk. 5:17-26**). Today's story is about overcome a lot of challenges and obstacles to get a paralyzed man into the presence of Jesus. There will be obstacles and challenges that we will face in reaching our goals. What were those obstacles?

1. The crowd that were all around the Savior. When there was no room they could have given up and taken him home, but they didn't.
2. The physical condition of the man.
3. The thinking of the Pharisees. They did not like Jesus saying he could forgive sins.
4. The roof damages.
5. The internal guilt of the man.

C. How can we overcome the challenges and obstacles that we face?

1. In this story Jesus preached the word to the crowd. When He needed power He turned to God for the extra power He needed.
  - a. God cares about everything that touches our lives (Zech. 2:8; 1 Pet. 5:7).
  - b. God has unlimited resources at his disposal (Ps. 50:10; Isa. 43:2; 41:10; 2 Chron. 16:9).
  - c. If we connect up with God it can change our perspective or attitude. Prayer changes us not God (Prov. 23:7; 16:; 1 Pet. 1:13).
3. We also have to use the weapons of warfare more that God has given us and never give up (Eph. 6:10-13; Phil. 2:5; Rom. 12:2; 1 Cor. 10:13).
4. In Matthew's version of this story it says two very important details;
  - a. Mt. 9:6 Jesus said that you may know the Son of man has power to forgive sins...". There were things that the leaders and the people did not know or realize about God. So it is with us. We may not realize how close he is to us and the resources that he has available to us in our time of need.
  - b. In Mt. 9:8 it says that when the multitude saw his power they marveled and glorified God who had give such power to men. God has a lot of power that we have not yet tapped into to help us solve our problems and overcome the obstacles in our lives.