



Discussion Guide for the week of April 10, 2011

Sermon Topic: Who You Befriend, Part 2 – Luke 5:15-26 – Matt Cassidy

Introduction: You choose who your friends will be and your friends choose who you will be because part of what makes us who we are is who we allow to influence our thinking and behavior.

Study Questions:

- 1. How do you see your beliefs and behavior being influenced by the people you most hang out with? On the scale below, share your natural tendency in friendship:**

1	2	3	4	5
more reserved & private				openly share issues
- 2 What makes a good friend for you? What obstacles do you face that affects your ability to develop good quality friendships? Have you ever rejected a friend because you felt like they were getting too close to the truth in your life? How and why did you reject them?**
- 3 Read Luke 5:15-26. Describe the physical and social condition of the paralytic man. Matt used the metaphor of the “mat” to be symbolic of the baggage we bring into a relationship. How do good friends accept our baggage but want better for us? How do good friends take us to Jesus?**
- 4 Describe the extent of effort that the friends were willing to go to for the man. How have you seen good friends go out of their way to help you in a time of need? Describe a time when you needed a friend but didn't have one? Good friends come from making it a priority and investing well. What do you need to do to alter your lifestyle to make friendship a priority? To invest well?**
- 5 Re-read verses 20-24. What does Jesus observe and what does He say? How is Jesus claiming to be God in this passage? How do we know the audience understood Jesus' claim?**
- 6 What is your main personal application to the lessons on whom you befriend?**