"BREAKING OUT"
"ONE PRAYER" – PT. 3

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MARK 2:1-12 (NLT) When Jesus returned to Capernaum several days later, the news spread quickly that he was back home. Soon the house where he was staying was so packed with visitors that there was no more room, even outside the door. While he was preaching God's word to them, four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat. They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus. Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My child, your sins are forgiven."

But some of the teachers of religious law who were sitting there thought to themselves, "What is he saying? This is blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!"

Jesus knew immediately what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts? Is it easier to say to the paralyzed man 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk'? So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!"

And the man jumped up, grabbed his mat, and walked out through the stunned onlookers. They were all amazed and praised God, exclaiming, "We've never seen anything like this before!"

1. FIND MY _____

   PROV. 16:9 (NIV) In his heart a man plans his course, but the LORD determines his steps.

   ROMANS 12:3 (MSG) The only accurate way to understand ourselves is by what God is and by what he does for us, not by what we are and what we do for him.

2. CAPTURE MY _____

   PSALM 37:4 (NIV) Delight yourself in the LORD and he will give you the desires of your heart.

3. FIRST I HAVE TO _____

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   √_____

   PSALM 25:4 (NIV) Show me the right path, O LORD; point out the road for me to follow.

4. DON'T QUIT OR GIVE UP, _____THROUGH ALL CIRCUMSTANCES!

   2 COR. 4: 1, 8-9, 18 (NLT) Therefore, since God in his mercy has given us this new way, we never give up. We are pressed on every side by troubles, but we are not crushed. We are perplexed, but not driven to despair. We are hunted down, but never abandoned by God. We get knocked down, but we are not destroyed. So we don't look at the troubles we can see now; rather, we fix our gaze on things that cannot be seen. For the things we see now will soon be gone, but the things we cannot see will last forever.

   PHILIPPIANS 4:13 (NIV) I CAN DO EVERYTHING THROUGH HIM WHO GIVES ME STRENGTH.

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Digging Deeper: Small Group Questions …

1. Where are you at now?
   a. The crowd watching.
   b. On the mat being carried.
   c. Carrying someone else.
2. When was the time that someone carried you?
3. What do you need to do to get off the mat?
4. What happens to others when they see us not give up?
5. In one sentence, what is your "one prayer"?