

What does it mean to “Leave No Man Behind?”

We are told in the books of Mark and Luke about the story of Jesus healing the paralytic.

On one particular day, Jesus was teaching in a house. There were Pharisees and doctors of the law sitting there. People had come from all over the place to hear Jesus speak and be healed. There was a certain man who was a paralytic lying on a mat. He had no hope of going to see Jesus as he couldn't walk. But four men had the attitude of “Leave No Man Behind!” So, they picked up the man on his bed and carried him to see the Savior.

However, the house was filled! There were so many people in the house, there was no way they could get in to see Jesus. But did they give up? Did they turn to their friend and say “sorry but we tried?” The answer was no! These men were determined. They did what was needed to bring their friend to the feet of Jesus.

They tore open a hole in the roof and let their friend down on his mat to the feet of Jesus.

Now, the Bible tells us that when Jesus saw “their” faith...

Wait, what? When He saw THEIR faith? What does that mean? It wasn't the faith of the man being carried and who needed healing? Amazing! It was the faith of his friends who carried him. It was “their” faith that impressed Jesus! Why would the friends go through all of this? Why would they go through the trouble? It's because they knew this man would be changed, healed, and transformed when brought into the presence of God.

These men were ordinary men. They were no different than you or me. The Bible doesn't say that they were theologians, and the Bible doesn't say that they were leaders in the church. No, in fact, the church leaders were in the house already. It's a wonder to think about how many of those Pharisees and doctors of the law walked right past this paralytic man. I imagine that many of them passed him by on their way to see Jesus. But the four ordinary men did something very extra-ordinary didn't they? And it's no different today. God is looking for ordinary men who, by faith, will do something quite extraordinary!

Is that you? Are you one of those men?

Next Blog Submission – Continuing to Look at the Four Characteristics of a “Leave No Man Behind” Lifestyle & Attitude.

Stay tuned as you won't want to miss it!!

- Doug