

Men of Commitment! Is that you? Are you a man of commitment?

In the passage in Luke we see the story of Jesus healing the paralytic. In this story we see four qualities of a “Leave No Man Behind” attitude and lifestyle. Let’s explore the first quality:

The First Quality – *Men of Commitment*

The whole story of the paralytic took place because of the deep, male friendship these men felt for one another. Now, remember that back in those days, a person with a physical deformity was normally ostracized from society, and sometimes they were even disowned. They were often left to fend for themselves. It was also thought back then that these people somehow brought this upon themselves due to a sin they committed. But this man’s friends were not going to allow social stigmas or physical obstacles to affect their ministry to this man. These four men had such a strong commitment level to people that it surpassed even the challenges of buildings, money, or programs. They were the friends this man needed to bring him to Jesus.

They understood that Jesus came for the people – people who are needy, broken, and hurting. The friends’ commitment to the “Leave No Man Behind” attitude was great! Their passion for his healing was so intense they would have done anything to get him to Jesus. So many of us (and I include myself in this category) devote massive amounts of time to making money, enjoying our hobbies, and succeeding at our jobs, yet we often neglect the people around us. Seeing men as God sees them requires commitment to looking around and having the Holy Spirit lead you to the needs of others.

Every man has a “mat.” This “mat” is a place of brokenness, or a weakness in his life. Every man has a wound that needs to be healed. And every man has a need for others to carry him at times. Perhaps a man has lost his job, or perhaps he has lost a spouse or a loved one. Maybe he is struggling with pornography, or anger and an explosive, uncontrollable temper. Maybe his marriage is crumbling, or he has teenagers or children who are adults that are addicted to drugs. He might just feel like a failure!

Look around you. You will see men lying on their mats just waiting for you and other men to carry them to Jesus. Maybe you are on the side of the road and are currently waiting for some Christian friends to come and carry you to Jesus. I dare say that as men, if we are going to be totally honest with each other, we at some point all need to be carried to Jesus!

Men, we are sons of God! And as sons of God we have a mission. And that mission is to each other! That mission is to look around through the Holy Spirit and carry each other’s mats to the feet of Jesus!

That takes commitment – we must be committed to each other. This is the first quality for the “Leave No Man Behind” attitude. I am asking you to pray for this commitment in your life!

In the next post, we will look at the second quality of a “Leave No Man Behind” attitude and lifestyle. You won’t want to miss it!