



## Jason Ballard // I Need Help // April 7th, 2024

When you experience something that changes everything, you can't help but share it. As Jesus journeyed toward the cross and the tomb, different people along the way were invited to come and see. As his journey progressed, it became less clear what God was doing in the moment, but more clear to us today—clear that the invitation to come and see isn't just a physical one, it's a spiritual one. It's an invitation of forgiveness, hope, and freedom. It wasn't just news for a moment, but good news for all humanity. Good news for you, and it's definitely worth sharing.

**Scripture:** [Mark 2:1-12 NIV](#)

**Bottom Line:** We all need help—help from friends and help from Jesus to address the deepest need of the human heart.

### Discussion:

1. How easy is it for you to ask for help when you need it? Why do you think this is?
2. What are some common reasons why people might hesitate to ask for help, even when they genuinely need it?
3. Read Mark 2:1-12. Have there been times in your life where what you thought was your greatest need turned out to be something different? How did this experience shape your understanding of yourself and your relationship with God?
4. What does Jesus' emphasis on forgiveness of sins teach us about the human condition? How does the account of Genesis 1-3 speak into this?
5. What is the difference between hearing "your sins are forgiven" and simply being told "you're fine the way you are"? Why is the first statement actually better than the second? Why is forgiveness a necessary and healing message, even if it sometimes challenges our sense of self?
6. How does the story of the friends' determined faith challenge our own perception of what it means to trust in Jesus? How can we cultivate a similar kind of faith in our lives?
7. What does this account reveal about the power of community? Do you live as if Christianity is a solo sport, or do you have friends to support you along the way? How so?

### Moving Forward:

This week, strive to embrace the messy faith Jason talked about. And embrace community as you continually turn toward Jesus, encountering the transformative good news of forgiveness and God's deep love for us.