

## LUKE 5; August 22; Who Can Forgive Sins?

### ANALYSIS:

1. What was Peter's reason for not wanting to take his ship back out into the lake and let down his net? \_\_\_\_\_
2. What was the deciding factor that resulted in the leper being healed? \_\_\_\_\_
3. Though great multitudes wanted Him, why did Jesus withdraw into the wilderness? \_\_\_\_\_
4. What is easier to say, "Thy sins be forgiven thee," or, "Rise up and walk"? \_\_\_\_\_
5. What was the sickness that those people had, who were whole and did not need a physician? \_\_\_\_\_

### THINGS TO THINK ABOUT:

When men could not get their lame friend to Jesus due to the large crowds, they went up on top of the house, made a hole in the roof, and lowered their friend down to Jesus (v. 18-19). Jesus saw their faith and healed their friend (v. 20-25). Do not be discouraged in prayer! If it looks like you will not be heard, or the Lord is too busy for you, or there are too many other prayer requests, do not give up! This bold, I-will-not-quit attitude in prayer is called importunity. The Lord will hear you as surely as the friend in bed and the unjust judge heard those calling on them (Luke 11:5-8; 18:1-6).

Peter had fished all night with no success. But when he tried one more time, he caught enough to sink two ships! What are you discouraged about in your life today? If it is your marriage, your children, your job, or your finances, it does not matter. Do what the Lord wants you to do one more time. Either today or tomorrow or the next day, you will catch enough fish to sink two ships! Believe it! Let down your net by His word one more time!

### HELP:

1. Because they had worked all night and had not caught a single fish, Peter was certain they could not catch any by another effort (v. 5).
2. The will of God. The leper said, "If thou wilt" (v. 12). Jesus said, "I will" (v.13).
3. In order to pray (v. 16). If Jesus would leave all the things calling for His attention in order to pray, how much more should we?
4. They are equal - they both require the power of God (v. 21-24). Only a man with the power of God could do either by only his spoken word. However, it is easier to say, "Thy sins be forgiven thee," since you cannot see that like you can see a healing.
5. Self-righteousness! These scribes and Pharisees thought they were superior to publicans and sinners, but they were so only in their own minds (v. 29-32).