

Life in COMMUNITY

MARK 2:1-12

I. Introduction:

A. Statistics

1. According to the CDC, every 4 ½ minutes a baby is born with a birth defect of some kind. That's 120,000 babies each year.
2. The 2012 U.S. Census says that 1 out of 5 Americans has a disability.

B. In the second chapter of Mark, there's a story of a crippled man.

1. Born that way.
2. To be crippled in Jesus' day was very difficult.
3. Life on a 3' by 6' mat – the symbol of everything bad in this man's life.

C. "Everyone is Normal Until You Get To Know Them" by John Ortberg

D. But how about you?

II. There Are Five Things That Seem To Stand Out:

A. First, Jesus is _____.

B. Second, the crippled man's friends were _____.

C. Third, _____
_____.

D. Fourth, _____
_____.

E. Last, we can only do real life in _____.

1. Another professor, Peter Cohen, puts it this way:

"Human beings have a deep need to bond and form connections. It's how we get our satisfaction. If we can't connect with each other, we will connect with anything we can find – the whirr of a roulette wheel or the prick of a syringe."

III. Truth – We Need Relational Connections.

IV. In His Book "Chasing The Scream", Johann Hari Says:

"We've traded floor space for friends. We've traded stuff for connections. And the result is that we are one of the loneliest societies that there has ever been."

V. We Need Human Connection.