Because the man’s 4 friends were willing to move forward and not allow the crowds at the door to stop them, they were able to benefit from Jesus and learn about him.

7. List some of the risks they took in bringing the man to Jesus through the roof.

8. Jesus used this opportunity to disclose more than his healing power. What else do they learn about Jesus as a result of their step of faith? (See verses 20-21.)

9. Those who follow Jesus casually or when convenient are not as likely to have profound encounters with him. What do you learn about Jesus’ call to intentional spirituality in the following verses?

   Luke 2:47
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________

   Matthew 16:24
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________
   ________________________________

11. What were some of the roadblocks people saw in their partnership with Christ in Luke 9:59-62? How does Jesus address them?

   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________

12. Discuss some of the kinds of challenges that Christians face today that Jesus wants us to move through if we are to see Jesus for who he is and grow strong in faith.

   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
   ___________________________________________________
from our lives and tempt us to bow down at the altar of safety and predictability.

In this study we look at four men who took the risk of challenging roadblocks in order to bring their friend to Jesus. They experienced more and learned more about Jesus than they expect as a result. So do we when we have the courage to face the roadblocks in our lives.

**Luke 5:17-26**

17 On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal. 18 And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, 19 but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus.

20 And when he saw their faith, he said, “Man, your sins are forgiven you.”

21 And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, “Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?”

22 When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, “Why do you question in your hearts? 23 Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? 24 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins” - he said to the man who was paralyzed - “I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home.”

25 And immediately he rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God. 26 And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, “We have seen extraordinary things today.”

A roadblock by nature is something that stands in the way of you reaching your objective. A roadblock is not important if it is behind you. It’s not relevant if it is on a road someone else is traveling. It becomes important to you when it gets in the way of a place where you want to go.

1. Share about a time when you were traveling and encountered a roadblock that hindered your ability to arrive at your destination.

2. Discuss the options you have when you face a physical roadblock. Which one do you normally take?

3. Share with the group a time you faced a roadblock that was not physical that stood in the way of something that you wanted.

4. Sometimes roadblocks are from God, but we don’t see them that way. Read numbers 22:22-31 and discuss why God put a roadblock in front of Balaam.

5. Sometimes we tell ourselves that we are going to move forward with a certain plan of action unless God stops us through circumstances. Discuss the wisdom of this approach.

6. In the text of Luke chapter five, the four friends of the crippled man want to bring him to Jesus for healing. Describe the situation in the first half of verse 19. What do you think this looked like?