

## Thought for the day – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> January 2022

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### 'Faith Friends'

<sup>5</sup> When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralyzed man, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

- Mark 2:5

There is a wonderful event, early on in Mark's gospel, when friends of a paralytic man, try to bring him to Jesus, for healing, but there are so many people crammed in to see and listen to Jesus, that they cannot enter. Undeterred, they make a whole in the roof, and lower the man on his mat. Seeing their faith, Jesus pronounces first forgiveness and then healing to the paralytic. I think Jesus would have laughed in joy at their ingenuity, although I am not sure if the owner of the house would have!

The paralysed man's own faith, had nothing to do with this amazing experience of healing and forgiveness. It was the faith of his friends that got him the blessing. I remember how it was my mum's faith, and then the faith of my friends in church that brought me to Jesus, over 30 years ago, from whom I have received a measure of healing (not necessarily physical), hope and a purpose in life.

Who are our friends who have and still bring us to Jesus? Who believes for us? We should give thanks for them often.

And who can we be 'faith friends' for? Who can we believe for? Who can we bring to Jesus, through our faith, our prayers and our acts of love and kindness.

You can read the whole account here – Mark 2:1-12