

**Sermon Discussion Guide**  
**Hope, Grace, and Healing**  
**Luke 5:17-26, Matthew 11:28-30 | January 24, 2021**

**Big Idea**

The mission of our church moving forward is that of hope, grace, and healing.

**Opening Question**

We've been studying the backstory of Jesus through our 100-Day Challenge, and this week we heard a bit of Pastor Paul's backstory as well. He spoke of some unexpected changes God led him through. What are some of the biggest, unexpected changes you've had over the course of your own life?

**Key Scripture Questions**

1. Read **Luke 5:17-19**. The paralyzed man and his friends couldn't be stopped from getting to Jesus because they were driven by **hope**. How can we have hope in a world that is lacking it? If you're willing, share a trial you were able to get through because of hope.
2. "People who believe in the resurrection, in God making a whole new world in which everything will be set right at last, are unstoppably motivated to work for that new world in the present." – *NT Wright, Surprised by Hope*. Do you agree with this statement? Why (not)? What are some ways we might change the world if we are hopeful?
3. Read **Luke 5:20-21**. Jesus extended **grace** to the paralyzed man and forgave him of his sins. How can we introduce others to the saving grace of Jesus? Is that through words, actions, or both?
4. Jesus boldly spoke with divine authority in front of the Pharisees. What does a church that recognizes Jesus as the ultimate authority look like?
5. Read **Luke 5:22-26**. Jesus displayed his power by **healing** the paralyzed man. Why was this healing so important?
6. Read **Matthew 11:28-30**. Beyond healing physical needs, Jesus also heals emotional and spiritual wounds. Do we still need that healing after salvation? How can we promote more open conversations about pain?

**Concluding Questions**

We've heard some exciting things about the vision of our church moving forward. How are you feeling about this transition? Which of the three missional words of *hope*, *grace*, and *healing* stand out as our greatest need right now? What are some practical ways you can be a part of this mission?

**Application Questions**

1. What do you think the Holy Spirit may be saying to you through this sermon and our discussion?
2. What is something God wants you to do now?
3. Beyond prayer for each other, is there a way we can help each other apply what God is showing us?

**Prayer Time**

"Dear Heavenly Father, thank You for the blessing of our local church and its leadership. Please grant us discernment and wisdom as we navigate our next steps together. Amen."