

- **Can a 'friend' really forgive everything?**
- **What, if anything, can I do to thank Him for His generosity?**



The end result of any encounter with Christ is always an 'aha' moment

- **Share any moments when you have had an 'aha' moment, a time when you have experienced the awe of God.**
- **Did the experience change you in any way?**
- **Do encounters with God always result in some form of change / transformation?**
- **Why do you think this is?**

These notes have been created with the assistance and kind permission of Roy Crowne.

For more information about Roy and his Ministry with **HOPE Together** contact:



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Christians working together for worship & witness

How good it is when brothers live together in unity.
Psalm 133v1



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ADORE – 20th March 2011

The following notes have been put together drawing from Roy Crowne's talk.
We hope that you will find them a useful tool in discussion of the issues raised further with your group.

If you should have any comments on **ADORE** and these notes please do not hesitate to contact us.

THANK YOU

A fresh encounter with God

- **Read Luke 5: 17-26 two or three times.**

Luke 5: 17-26 (Jesus Forgives and Heals a Paralyzed Man)

¹⁷ One day Jesus was teaching, and Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there. They had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with Jesus to heal the sick. ¹⁸ Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. ¹⁹ When they could not find a way to do this because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and lowered him on his mat through the tiles into the middle of the crowd, right in front of Jesus.

²⁰ When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven."

²¹ The Pharisees and the teachers of the law began thinking to themselves, "Who is this fellow who speaks blasphemy? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"

²² Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? ²³ Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk?' ²⁴ But I want you to know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." So he said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." ²⁵ Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. ²⁶ Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, "We have seen remarkable things today."

- **Read it again and take turns to put yourself in the shoes of each the main characters.**
 - **How would you feel if you were them?**
 - **What would your response have been to what was happening?**
 - **Would you have reacted differently than they did?**
 - **Why?**



We need to work together for the purpose of mission

- **What does 'mission' mean to you?**
- **Is mission something that only adults can do?**
- **What could you do to make a difference in your community?**
- **Who could you invite to join you in this project or initiative?**



How do we cope with problems or obstacles that we encounter?

- **Who do you turn to first when you face a problem or challenge?**
- **Is it okay to take every problem / challenge to God?**
- **Is there anything that is too big or too small to talk to God about?**
- **Share any situations where you have asked God to help you and what has happened.**

REMEMBER: There's always a way with God.



What does it feel like to be called 'friend' by Jesus, and then to have your sins forgiven?

- **So what does it feel like to be called 'friend' by Jesus?**
- **Does that mean you have to change anything about how you live your life?**