

"COUCH SLEEPER CALLOUT"

Week 4: Expand

KEY PASSAGES:

Mt 28:19 "go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit..."

Acts 1:8: "you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth."

Ephesians 4:12 "...to equip his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up."

John 20:21 "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I am sending you."

Luke 5:17-24: 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. Some men came carrying a paralyzed man on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. 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. When Jesus saw their faith, he said, 'Friend, your sins are forgiven.' 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?" Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? 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."

Keith Green: "Asleep in the Light"

Do you see? Do you see? All the people sinking down?
Don't you care, don't you care? Are you gonna let them drown?
How can you be so numb, Not to care if they come?
You close your eyes and pretend the job's done

"Bless me, Lord, bless me, Lord" ..You know, it's all I ever hear--
No one aches, no one hurts, No one even sheds one tear--
But He cries, He weeps, He bleeds, And He cares for your needs..
And you just lay back and keep soaking it in

Open up, open up, And give yourself away--
You see the need, you hear the cries, so how can you delay?
God's calling, and you're the one... But like Jonah, you run...
He's told you to speak but you keep holding it in

The world is sleeping in the dark, and the church just can't fight 'cause it's asleep in the light
How can you be so dead when you've been so well fed?
Jesus rose from the grave, and you can't even get out of bed!

QUESTIONS:

1. Have you seen the "Jesus Revolution" movie? What do you know about the 'Jesus Movement' of the late 1960s and early 1970s?
2. Who are some of the people you would say were instrumental (directly or indirectly) in you becoming the person you are today (faith-related or not)?
3. Can you think of some time in your life, either individually or as part of some team, where you were beginning to drift away or lose focus from your purpose and needed to be reminded of it?
4. Share something that has been particularly helpful or challenging for you in this message series.
5. Share at least one thing you find particularly notable in Luke's story (above) of the paralyzed man and his friends who brought him to Jesus.
6. In our mission to EXPAND--to go and tell, to be an active part of helping others to encounter Jesus--what do you find the most difficult or intimidating?
7. Keith Green, a product of the Jesus movement, wrote the song above. Read the lyrics and share any thoughts.
8. **FOR PERSONAL REFLECTION / ACTION:** Seek and pray for God to lead you to someone in your life in order to: 1) have compassion on someone who is hurting, then 2) believe Jesus can make a difference, and finally 3) bring them to Jesus!