

BEYOND SUNDAY

Taking Sunday's Message Into The Week



Series: Why Church?

Message: Made For A Mission

Main Text: Mark 2:1-12

Beyond Sunday Guide

Main Idea

Over the past few weeks, we've seen that the Church is a family where we belong, a place where we grow, and a community where we are better together. And this past Sunday, Pastor Joseph brought our **Why Church?** series to a close by asking a simple question: **"Where do we go from here?"** You see, with life constantly pulling us in a hundred different directions, being busy doesn't necessarily mean we're being purposeful. Between work, family, responsibilities, and the endless list of things competing for our attention—sometimes represented by a desk full of Post-it notes—we can sometimes find ourselves wondering where to even begin. Perhaps the best place to start today is by remembering **the mission God has already given us.**

The message took us to **Mark 2**, where four friends carried a paralyzed man to the home of Peter. You see they knew they were powerless to perform a miracle themselves, so **they simply did their part to help someone get to Jesus.** And when the crowd blocked their way in, they didn't turn around or give up—instead they climbed onto the roof, opened a way through, and lowered their friend into the presence of the Lord. That's a beautiful picture of living on mission. Jesus said, **"As the Father has sent Me, I also send you"** (*John 20:21*), and the Church helps us live that out by gathering us around God's Word, refocusing our hearts, and sending us into the places He has called us to serve and influence.

That truth came to life through the story of **Edward Kimball**, an ordinary Sunday School teacher who followed God's prompting to reach out to one of his students. Edward didn't do anything extravagant, but he simply did his part by visiting with the young man at work and sharing the love of Christ with him. In many ways, Edward was doing what the four friends in Mark 2 had done: **helping someone get into the presence of Jesus.** That young man was D. L. Moody, whom God would later use to reach millions of people for the Gospel. We may never know the full story God is writing through our obedience, but we can choose to be faithful with our part. It may be a prayer, conversation, invitation, an act of kindness, or simply stepping into someone's story. **We were made for a mission, and God can use our ordinary obedience to make an eternal difference.**

Talk About It

1. Pastor Joseph said, **"God never intended the church to be the finish line of your faith—it's the starting line of your mission."** What does that statement mean to you? How does it change the way you think about your place in the Church?
2. **Read Mark 2:1–12.** What stands out to you about the four friends and the way they responded when the crowd became an obstacle? What do their actions reveal about what it means to live on mission?
3. Pastor Joseph said, **"Mission doesn't begin with having all the answers—it begins with helping someone get to Jesus."** Why do you think people sometimes make the mission more complicated than it needs to be?
4. Pastor Joseph said, **"Someone first carried your corner so you could get to Jesus."** In many ways, you now have the privilege of paying that forward and carrying a corner for someone else. How might God be asking you to do that?



“As the Father has sent Me, I also send you.”

John 20:21

Make It Practical

1. **Take an honest look at your current pace of life.** What's taking up most of your time, attention, and energy right now? Ask yourself whether the way you are spending your time reflects what you believe matters most. What's something you can rearrange, release, or make room for so you can live with greater purpose?
2. **Choose one place where God has already positioned you and look for an opportunity to represent Jesus there.** It may be your workplace, neighborhood, school, family, or a friendship. Rather than waiting for a big opportunity, just look for one simple way to show the love of Christ through your words, actions, service, or willingness to listen.
3. **Think about an obstacle that has kept you from taking action.** Maybe it's fear, busyness, uncertainty, or feeling inadequate. Name it honestly, then decide what it would look like to move forward anyway. What is one step of obedience you have been putting off that you can take this week?
4. **Look back over the four weeks of *Why Church?* and consider what God has been showing you about your place in His Church.** We've talked about belonging, growing, doing life together, and now living on mission. Ask God to help you identify one way you can become more intentionally invested in the life of your church family—it could be through relationships, spiritual growth, serving, giving, inviting, or simply showing up and being present—and then decide how you can put that into action this week.

Prayer

Father, thank You for sending Jesus to seek and save the lost and for making a way for us to know You. Thank You for the people You have placed in our lives who have helped us take steps toward You, and for the privilege of being part of Your Church and joining Your mission. Help us not simply hear Your Word, but allow it to shape how we live. Give us eyes to see the people around us who need encouragement, compassion, friendship, or an invitation to know You. When fear, busyness, or inadequacy become obstacles, give us courage to move forward in faith. As we look back over these weeks, help us remember what it means to belong, grow, live in community, and live on mission. Show us how to be more intentionally invested in Your Church and faithful with the opportunities You place before us. Help us trust You with the results and faithfully do our part. In Jesus' name, Amen.