MSG: FAITH-FILLED FRIENDS
SCRIPTURE: MATTHEW 9:1–8
SZN 1: REVIVAL THROUGH LIVING

Matthew 9:1–8 NIV
“Jesus stepped into a boat, crossed over and came to his own town. Some men brought to him a paralyzed man, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the man, ‘Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.’ At this, some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, ‘This fellow is blaspheming!’ Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, ‘Why do you entertain evil thoughts 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, ‘Get up, take your mat and go home.’ Then the man got up and went home. When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such authority to man.”

1. FAITH-FILLED FRIENDS BRING YOU TO THE ONE WHO FORGIVES.

Matthew 9:2 NIV
“Some men brought to him a paralyzed man, lying on a mat. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the man, ‘Take heart, son; your sins are forgiven.’”

THE FORGIVENESS OF JESUS SEES MORE THAN MY CONDITION.

THE FORGIVENESS I RECEIVE SHOULD SHAPE THE LIFE I LIVE.

2. FAITH-FILLED FRIENDS BRING YOU TO THE ONE WHO HAS THE FINAL SAY.

Matthew 9:3–6a NIV
“At this, some of the teachers of the law said to themselves, ‘This fellow is blaspheming!’ Knowing their thoughts, Jesus said, ‘Why do you entertain evil thoughts 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.’”

JESUS EXAMINES THE HEART, NOT JUST THE WORDS.

JESUS’ AUTHORITY DOES NOT REQUIRE PEOPLE’S APPROVAL.

3. FAITH-FILLED FRIENDS BRING YOU TO THE ONE WHO CAN RAISE YOU UP.

Matthew 9:6–7 NIV
“‘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, ‘Get up, take your mat and go home.’ Then the man got up and went home.”

HIS WORD CALLS FOR MY RESPONSE.

HIS WORK SHOULD SHOW UP IN MY HOME.

Matthew 9:8 NIV
“When the crowd saw this, they were filled with awe; and they praised God, who had given such authority to man.”