







GATHERING TO CHRIST

<sup>1</sup> And again He entered Capernaum after some days, and it was heard that He was in the house. <sup>2</sup> Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive them, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. <sup>3</sup> Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four men.

Mark 2:1-5 (NKJV)

GATHERING TO CHRIST

4 And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying. 5 When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."

Mark 2:1-5 (NKJV)

## **GATHERING TO CHRIST**

<sup>10</sup> But that you may know that the Son of Man has power on earth to forgive sins"—He said to the paralytic, <sup>11</sup> "I say to you, arise, take up your bed, and go to your house." <sup>12</sup> Immediately he arose, took up the bed, and went out in the presence of them all, so that all were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

Mark 2:10-12 (NKJV)

## THE PROMISE OF HIS PRESENCE

<sup>18</sup> "Assuredly, I say to you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. <sup>19</sup> "Again I say to you that if two of you agree on earth concerning anything that they ask, it will be done for them by My Father in heaven. <sup>20</sup> For where two or three are gathered together in My name, I am there in the midst of them."

Matthew 18:18-20 (ESV)

## WHAT PREVENTS US FROM GATHERING

- 1. Past experiences.
- 2. Fear of being exposed.
- 3. Individualistic mind-set.
- 4. Shy of groups/crowds of people.
- 5. Fear of being overwhelmed.
- 6. Fear of not connecting or fitting in.

## THE POWER OF GATHERING

<sup>24</sup> And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, <sup>25</sup> not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

Hebrews 10:24-25 (ESV)