

# NOTES:

# Learning in the Land of Israel

## I. A Living God

Luke 5:17-26 (NIV)

<sup>17</sup> One day as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law, who had come from every village of Galilee and from Judea and Jerusalem, were sitting there. **And the power of the Lord was present for him to heal the sick.** <sup>18</sup> Some men came carrying a paralytic on a mat and tried to take him into the house to lay him before Jesus. <sup>19</sup> 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. <sup>20</sup> When Jesus saw their faith, he said, "Friend, your sins are forgiven." <sup>21</sup> 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?" <sup>22</sup> Jesus knew what they were thinking and asked, "Why are you thinking these things in your hearts? <sup>23</sup> Which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? <sup>24</sup> But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins..." He said to the paralyzed man, "I tell you, get up, take your mat and go home." <sup>25</sup> Immediately he stood up in front of them, took what he had been lying on and went home praising God. <sup>26</sup> Everyone was amazed and gave praise to God. They were filled with awe and said, "We have seen remarkable things today."

### A. Power of God --- present, inert?

#### 1. Still in the earth . . .

Matthew 5:17-18 (NIV)

<sup>17</sup> "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them. <sup>18</sup> I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not the smallest letter, not the least stroke of a pen, will by any means disappear from the Law until everything is accomplished.

Psalms 121:3-4 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> He will not let your foot slip-- he who watches over you will not slumber; <sup>4</sup> indeed, **he who watches over Israel will neither slumber nor sleep.**

**KEY:** simple; audience; resolve; anticipate

## 2. Confronting doubt & inertia

Luke 8:24-25 (NIV)

<sup>24</sup> The disciples went and woke him, saying, "Master, Master, we're going to drown!" He got up and rebuked the wind and the raging waters; the storm subsided, and all was calm. <sup>25</sup> **"Where is your faith?" he asked his disciples.** In fear and amazement they asked one another, "Who is this? He commands even the winds and the water, and they obey him."

Genesis 6:3 (NIV)

<sup>3</sup> Then the Lord said, "My Spirit will not contend with man forever

John 20:27 (NIV)

<sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here; see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it into my side. **Stop doubting and believe.**"

## 3. The Minority Report

Numbers 13:30-31 (NIV)

<sup>30</sup> Then Caleb silenced the people before Moses and said, "We should go up and take possession of the land, for we can certainly do it." <sup>31</sup> But the men who had gone up with him said, "We can't attack those people; they are stronger than we are."

## B. Assistance/One Another/Together

Hebrews 12:1 (NIV)

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us.

Ecclesiastes 4:12 (NIV)

<sup>12</sup> Though one may be overpowered, two can defend themselves. A cord of three strands is not quickly broken.

### 1. Keep it \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrews 3:12-13 (NIV)

<sup>12</sup> See to it, brothers, that none of you has a sinful, unbelieving

heart that turns away from the living God. <sup>13</sup> But encourage one another daily, as long as it is called Today, so that none of you may be hardened by sin's deceitfulness.

## 2. An \_\_\_\_\_ Issue

John 5:44 (NIV)

<sup>44</sup> How can you believe if you accept praise from one another, yet make no effort to obtain the praise that comes from the only God?

## C. "Friend, your sins are forgiven"

### 1. The power of forgiveness

a. A need we cannot \_\_\_\_\_

b. Benefits we cannot \_\_\_\_\_

### 2. The joy of forgiving ---

Acts 20:35 (NIV)

remembering the words the Lord Jesus himself said: 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

**Would you rather receive forgiveness**

**OR**

**be able to grant forgiveness?**

Matthew 5:11-12 (NIV)

<sup>11</sup> "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. <sup>12</sup> Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.