

Week 2 of Lenten Devotions – Joy in Obedience

“Just then some men came, carrying a paralyzed man on a bed. They were trying to bring him in and lay him before Jesus; but finding no way to bring him in because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the middle of the crowd in front of Jesus.” Luke 5:18-19 (NRSV)

“He said to the one who was paralyzed – ‘I say to you, stand up and take your bed and go to your home.’ Immediately he stood up before them, took what he had been lying on, and went to his home glorifying God.” Luke 5:24b-25 (NRSV)

Who was obedient in this story? The paralyzed man was obedient, and I think that his friends, who were so persistent in bringing him to see Jesus for a healing, were also obedient. It was their obedience to their strong belief that Jesus would heal their friend that led to them being persistent in getting their friend to Jesus, no matter what obstacles they encountered.

The scripture says that the paralyzed man went home glorifying God – there’s the joy in the healing coming from his own obedience to Jesus’ command, and also from his friends’ obedience. And I am sure that his friends also glorified God and rejoiced!

From this story we see how our lives are interconnected with each others’. Our obedience can lead to someone else’s joy. And you may have experienced joy due to someone else’s obedience! We certainly don’t see the whole picture but we don’t need to. By being obedient when God calls us, we are doing our part.

This week, continue your alertness to God calling you to obedience in small or large ways. Know that your faithful obedience is all that God asks of you.

Jesus heals the paralytic man

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cm9HQjq0wy0>

Music reflection:

Jesu Joy of Man’s Desiring

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iPeVluRjUi4>

I Will Change Your Name

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z5_v841c8u0

Jesus Loves Me

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7ouBobxZ0qE>

All Things Are Possible

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z-gt9lg8dpk>