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## The Means To What End?

**Mark 3:6** - *At once the Pharisees went away and met with the supporters of Herod to plot how to kill Jesus.*

**The Mission Of Jesus Was To Use Healing And Feeding As A Means To A Greater Purpose**

**He Didn't Come To Be Our Golden Ticket; He Came To Be Our Lord**

**Mark 2:1-12** - *When Jesus returned to Capernaum several days later, the news spread quickly that he was back home. <sup>2</sup> Soon the house where he was staying was so packed with visitors that there was no more room, even outside the door. While he was preaching God's word to them, <sup>3</sup> four men arrived carrying a paralyzed man on a mat. <sup>4</sup> They couldn't bring him to Jesus because of the crowd, so they dug a hole through the roof above his head. Then they lowered the man on his mat, right down in front of Jesus. <sup>5</sup> Seeing their faith, Jesus said to the paralyzed man, "My child, your sins are forgiven." <sup>6</sup> But some of the teachers of religious law who were sitting there thought to themselves, <sup>7</sup> "What is he saying? This is blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins!" <sup>8</sup> Jesus knew immediately what they were thinking, so he asked them, "Why do you question this in your hearts? <sup>9</sup> Is it easier to say to the paralyzed man 'Your sins are forgiven,' or 'Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk'? <sup>10</sup> So I will prove to you that the Son of Man has the authority on earth to forgive sins." Then Jesus turned to the paralyzed man and said, <sup>11</sup> "Stand up, pick up your mat, and go home!" <sup>12</sup> And the man jumped up, grabbed his mat, and walked out through the stunned onlookers. They were all amazed and praised God, exclaiming, "We've never seen anything like this before!"*

- 1) Creativity.
- 2) An Active Faith.

**Matthew 4:19** - *"...Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!"*

1. They Wanted To See Their Friend Healed.
2. They Believed Jesus Could Meet His Need.
3. They Were Burdened To The Point Of Action.
4. They Didn't Let A Difficult Situation Discourage Them.
5. They Worked Together And Dared To Do Something Different.

## Healing Is The Mercy Of God Poured Into A Person's Life

### Our Faith Affects Others

**Isaiah 1:5-6** - *Why do you continue to invite punishment? Must you rebel forever? Your head is injured, and your heart is sick. <sup>6</sup> You are battered from head to foot—covered with bruises, welts, and infected wounds—without any soothing ointments or bandages.*

**Isaiah 1:18-19** - *“Come now, let's settle this,” says the Lord. “Though your sins are like scarlet, I will make them as white as snow. Though they are red like crimson, I will make them as white as wool. <sup>19</sup> If you will only obey me, you will have plenty to eat.*