

The Missing Link



<p> MK. 2:1-12. MK. 6:30-44. MK. 7:31-37. MK. 9:14-27. John 1:40-42. John 1:43-45. Acts 8:26-40. Acts 9:10-18. </p>	<p> Helpless Man. Hungry Multitude. Deaf Mute. Demon Ridden Boy. Peter. Nathanael. Nobleman. Saul. Lost. </p>	<p> Four Friends. The Disciples. Friends. A Devoted Father. Andrew. Philip. Philip-Evangelist. Ananias. You. </p>	<p> Physician. Provider. Specialist. Healer. Messiah. Jesus. Saviour. In Christ. Saved. </p>
	<p> Eph. 2:11-12; 4:18; 1Thess. 4:5. </p>	<p> MK. 16:15-16; Mk. 28:18-20; Acts 8:4. </p>	<p> Eph. 2:1-4; Acts 2:38-41. </p>

THE MISSING LINK

John 5:1-7

INTRO: Man is separated from God. This came about by sin. Isa. 59:1-2. The man who had the infirmity for 30 years had no man as a connecting link to put him in the water. It is the duty of Christians to be the connecting link between the sinner and the Savior. God uses us in redeeming the World. Matt. 28:19-20; Mark 16:15-16; Rom. 1:14-15; 1 Cor. 1:21. The disinterested Christian is a missing link; he plays no part in joining the lost to the Lord. In the text we have the afflicted man and the curative water, but no man was present to put the man into the pool. The afflicted man is in our community; the curative power is at hand. Rom. 1:16. However, man's help is needed. We shall consider some who served as connecting links.

I. THE HELPLESS MAN, PARALYTIC. MARK 2:1-12.

Here we have the afflicted man and the Great Physician. The connecting link between the two was the four friends who brought him. Note the trouble they went to.

II. THE HUNGRY MULTITUDE. MARK 6:30-44.

Here we have three parties: the hungry multitude, the Great Provider, and the loaves. The Great Provider used them to feed the hungry 5000 men with 12 baskets full left. The hungry multitude is still in the land; the bread of life is in abundance. John 6:51. We must distribute the bread.

III. THE DEAF-MUTE. MARK 7:31-37.

We see here the deaf-mute and the Great Specialist. We find a man who brought the deaf-mute to the specialist. The afflicted man could not say: "I have no man."

IV. THE DEMON-RIDDEN BOY. MARK 9:14-27.

We have a demon ridden boy, the Healer, and the interceding, devoted father. The father today should serve as a connecting link between his son and the Savior.

V. PETER. JOHN 1:40-42.

Having found the Messiah himself, Andrew brought his brother Peter to the Lord. A man should serve as a connecting link between his brother and the Lord.

VI. NATHANAEL. JOHN 1:43-45.

This is another case of a man interested in his own brother and willing to serve as a connecting link.

VII. THE NOBLEMAN. ACTS 8:26-40.

The nobleman was seeking his way to heaven, but he had no man to guide him. The preacher served as a connecting link to guide him in the

way. The people in our community are seeking the way to heaven; we must be guides to them by preaching the Word.

VIII. ANANIAS. ACTS 9:10-18.

He served as a go-between, baptizing Saul that his sins might be forgiven, washed away. You may be called to render the same service. Will you respond as Ananias did?

CONCL: Today, you are needed as a link. There are many lost. Eph. 2:11-12; Eph. 4:18; 1 Thess. 4:5. They need to be saved. Eph. 2:1-4; Acts 2:28-41. Will you be the link? Mark 16:15-16; Matt. 28:18-20; Acts 8:4. Each of us should teach, warn, persuade, encourage. Be the connecting Link.