



**Metaphor, Part 2**  
**“Ripping the Roof”**  
**January 18-19, 2020**

**Opening Questions** (what is God doing in your life?)

- How are you seeing God at work in you and around you? (Good focus for prayers of praise and thanksgiving)
- What is a challenge you're facing? How can our group help? (Guides your group members into caring community)
- What Bible verse or passage has the Lord been using to speak to you this past week? (Points group members to regular devotional time)
- How might the Lord be using your circumstances and relationships to grow your faith? (Invites the Lord to use our entire lives for His purposes)

**Discovery Questions** (hear *and* put into practice, Matthew 7:24)

- How likely are you to...(on a scale of 1 to 5)...Cry at the movies. Lie about your age. Yell at the umpire. TP a friend's house. Bargain for a better price.
- Read Luke 5:17-28. Why do the friends of the paralyzed man come to hear Jesus? Why does Jesus respond differently to them than to the Pharisees and Teachers of the Law?
- Have you ever had a friend (or been one) who would “rip the roof off?”
- If you had been one of the crowd in the audience listening to Jesus, do you think you would have been more annoyed, amused, angry, or sympathetic?
- How do the friends' feelings for the paralyzed man affect their faith? What do you see as the main difference between the Pharisees and the friends of the paralyzed man?
- What type of marginalized, messy people are the hardest for you to have sympathy for? Like the paralytic, how might they feel judged, unworthy, and hopeless?
- Who are the people that are outside our church crowd or small group, that may be stuck and have few options for help? How can we as individuals and as a group be more open to helping them? What would “doing whatever it takes” to reach them look like?
- Respond to the Lord in prayer (praise, thanksgiving, confession, commitment)
- **For next week:** Prepare to share (voluntarily) what the Lord is saying to you through Bible reading and circumstances. We want to support each other in our unique yet common journeys with the Lord!

**Note:** Ongoing Rhythms for Life Groups (Daily Devotion, Bible Study Tools, and 10-week calendar) can be found on the Life Groups website at

<https://lifegroups.mycrosscity.com/resources/>.