



Lesson 7

January 17, 2021

## Healing for the Whole Person

Today's Bible lesson of the paralyzed man and his compassionate friends bringing him to Jesus shows us the altruistic nature of these friends. In the same vein, let's take a look at Tomi's story.

Tomi's problems began after knee-replacement surgery. Tomi was prescribed opioids after complications of the surgery developed. Tomi ended up on disability. Tomi was not allowed to babysit her two-year-old granddaughter after a neighbor called Children's Protective Services when the toddler was seen wandering in the hallway of the apartment building. Tomi was depressed; she stopped answering her phone and responding to texts from friends and family.

James, Caryn, and Monique—Tomi's friends for more than thirty years—knew they had to do something to bring Tomi to a relationship with Christ, the first step to healing. The friends asked their respective churches to place their friend on the prayer list for a breakthrough. James, Caryn, and Monique also fasted and prayed over lunch for two weeks. When Caryn learned their church was sponsoring a revival to kick off the new year, Caryn informed James and Monique, and they decided among themselves that they had to get Tomi to one of the nights of the revival (whether in person or virtually). As the friends were trying to figure out how to make this happen, a tearful Tomi called Monique and asked for help. And the rest is history.

Tomi was taken to the revival by her friends. Afterward, Tomi sent a group text to her friends, stating that the revival was her saving grace. Tomi asked for God's forgiveness and accepted Christ in her life. Tomi is going to get the help and counseling she needed, and she praised God in advance for her healing. Tomi recalls the evangelist asked one question repeatedly: "Do you want to be healed?" Tomi knew God was speaking directly to her. Tomi thanked her friends for their faith and for not giving up on her.

### Discussion Questions:

1. Discuss the healing Tomi would receive when she accepted Christ.
2. Discuss when you have helped others in times of distress.
3. Imagine Tomi's life after the revival. Describe how Tomi became a walking testimony of Jesus' love, forgiveness, and joy.