

Matthew (Jesus Speaks)

Be Healed

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Matthew 8:1-17

14 And when Jesus entered Peter's house, he saw his mother-in-law lying sick with a fever. 15 He touched her hand, and the fever left her, and she rose and began to serve him. 16 That evening they brought to him many who were oppressed by demons, and he cast out the spirits with a word and healed all who were sick. 17 This was to fulfill what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah: "He took our illnesses and bore our diseases."

- John the Baptist prepared the Way by announcing the coming of the Kingdom of God that confronts evil, restores God's reign, creates a new family. Jesus comes to teach on how to live in his kingdom (cf. **Matthew 4:23**). As they leave the mountainside, **Jesus' attention shifts to demonstrating the kingdom through people.**
- **Fulfill what was spoken** – Matthew shows how Jesus is the fulfillment and continuation the whole biblical story. Cf. **Isaiah 53:4; John 20:30-31**

*1 When he came down from the mountain, great crowds followed him. 2 And behold, a leper came to him and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, if you will, **you can make me clean.**" 3 And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately his leprosy was cleansed. 4 And Jesus said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift that Moses commanded, for a proof to them."*

- *Leprosy is a chronic bacterial infection that begins with the loss of all sensation in some part of the body; the nerve trunks are affected; the muscles waste away; the tendons contract until the hands are like claws. There follows ulceration of the hands and feet. Then comes the progressive loss of fingers and toes, until in the end a whole hand or a whole foot may drop off. The duration of that kind of leprosy is anything from twenty to thirty years. It is a kind of terrible progressive death in which a [person] dies by inches.* – William Barclay
- **You can** – the leper gives reverence and believed Jesus had the ability to heal him.
- **Say nothing to anyone** – He did this because He wanted to keep down the excitement of the crowds until the proper time for His formal revelation to Israel, which was an exact date as prophesied in Daniel 9. Cf. **1 Corinthians 2:8** *None of the rulers of this age understood this, for if they had, they would not have crucified the Lord of glory.*

5 When he had entered Capernaum, a centurion came forward to him, appealing to him, 6 "Lord, my servant is lying paralyzed at home, suffering terribly." 7 And he said to him, "I will come and heal him." 8 But the centurion replied, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof, but only say the word, and my servant will be healed. 9 For I too am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. And I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it." 10 When Jesus heard this, he marveled and said to those who followed him, "Truly, I

tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith. 11 I tell you, many will come from east and west and recline at table with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, 12 while the sons of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.” 13 And to the centurion Jesus said, “Go; let it be done for you as you have believed.” And the servant was healed at that very moment.

- Centurion is a Roman officer of typically a unit of about 100 soldiers.
- **Such faith** – the centurion knew that Jesus had the authority to heal his servant with just him speaking it.

Hebrews 11:1-3, 6

1 Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. 2 For by it the people of old received their commendation. 3 By faith we understand that the universe was created by the word of God, so that what is seen was not made out of things that are visible.

6 And without faith it is impossible to please him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who seek him.

Cf. **Romans 10:17**

Faith is more than simply believing in or acknowledging God's existence; it is rooted in trust. Faith involves abandoning reliance on your own self-efforts and placing complete dependence on God's character, actions, promises, and revealed Word. It calls for a wholehearted surrender to God, trusting Him in every aspect of life.

Discipleship Homework:

Use the questions and statements below to help you apply the teaching into your life.

- Do you believe Jesus still heals today? Why or why not?
- What do Jesus' healing miracles teach us about his character and his heart for people? Continue reading through the next several chapters focused on healing in Matthew. What is the way in which people approach Jesus?
- How can we reconcile the reality of unanswered prayers for healing with God's goodness and sovereignty?
- Who are the "outcasts" or "overlooked" in your life or community? How can you reflect Jesus' compassion toward them?
- Have questions about the message or need help with the homework? Please email Pastor Jarrod at jarrod@1116.church.