

SITTING AT THE FEET OF JESUS

Jesus the Miracle Worker Matthew 8:1—9:13

*“The men were amazed and asked, ‘What kind of man is this?
Even the winds and the waves obey him!’ ” Matthew 8:27*

Day 1: Read Matthew 8:1— 9:13.

1. In Matthew 5-7 Jesus has **taught** with authority (7:28, 29). Now he acts with authority.

	What is the situation?	What does Jesus do?	Result
8:2-4			
8:5-6, 13			
8:14, 15			
8:16			
8:23-26			
8:28, 30-32			
9:2-7			
9:9			

Day 2: Read Matthew 8:1-4.

2. Leprosy is a general term for all kinds of skin rashes and diseases. What was a leper's life like? (Lev. 13: 45, 46)
3. What amazing thing does Jesus do before he heals the leper? Why do you think he does that?
4. Jesus heals this man, but he still needs to go to the Temple and sacrifice so he can be made ritually clean. What do you need to remember when you feel unclean and unacceptable? (Heb. 9:22; 9:13-14; 10:19-22; Eph. 5: 25-27)

Day 3: Read Matthew 8:5-22.

5. How does the Roman centurion “get” who Jesus is, in a way that no one else has so far? (vv. 8-10)
6. In verses 11 and 12, Jesus describes the Great Celebration Banquet that will happen in the Kingdom of Heaven at the end of the age.
 - a. What is very surprising and shocking about Jesus' guest list?
 - b. Jesus is saying that this Roman centurion, an “unclean” Gentile outsider, will share a meal with the Old Testament Patriarchs. What does the centurion have that makes that possible? (v.10; Rom 3:22-24; 28-30)
7. Jesus tenderly heals Peter's mother-in-law, and then he spends the entire evening healing many others. How do these scenes show us Jesus' character and heart? How is Jesus fulfilling Isaiah's prophecy? (v.17)

Day 4: Read Matthew 8:18-27.

8. What do the two would-be disciples in verses 18-22 learn about the cost of following Jesus?

9. In verse 20 Jesus refers to himself for the first time as the “Son of Man.” What does this title mean in the Old Testament? (Dan. 7:13-14)

What is the stark contrast between this title of authority and Jesus’ present lifestyle?

10. Jesus rebukes the disciples for having “little faith” (v.26.) The commentator David Turner says, “It is genuine faith but it is limited in its awareness of the power of Jesus.” (*NLT Cornerstone Biblical Commentary: The Gospel of Matthew & The Gospel of Mark*, David L. Turner, Darrell L. Bock p. 132)

- a. What does this miracle teach them about his power?
- b. What does it say about who he is? (Ps. 65:5-8; 107:23-32)

11. Have there been times when you have felt as if God were asleep and unconcerned about you or your storms? How do the following verses remind you of the truth? (Ps. 121; Ps. 139: 7-10; Jn. 14: 16-18)
📖 Rom. 8: 31-39

Day 5: Read Matthew 8:28–9:13.

12. In 8:28-34, we get the feeling that Jesus has stepped into a place where the power of evil is running rampant. What details in the story point to this?
13. While Christians cannot be demon-possessed, how do we make sure that the devil doesn’t “get a foothold” in our lives? (Eph. 4: 22-32) 📖 (Eph.4-17–5:31; 6:10-18)
14. How do the demons react when Jesus shows up in their territory? What do they already know about Jesus and his power that makes them so afraid? 📖 (Rev. 14:9-11: 20:10)
15. Glance again at chapter 9:1-8.
- a. What shocking thing does Jesus say before he heals the paralyzed man?
 - b. Why do the teachers of the law (Jewish religious authority) consider this blasphemous? (Mk. 2:1-7)
 - c. So what is Jesus saying about himself and his calling? (v. 6)
 - d. How will he bring about this forgiveness? (Heb. 9: 13-14; Eph. 1:7; Col. 1:19, 20)
16. These chapters have given us an amazing picture of who Jesus is. Commentator N. T. Wright says, “Jesus has authority. You can’t miss it. Authority in his teaching. Authority over diseases at a distance. Authority over the storm, over the demons. Authority to do what normally only God does: to put away sins.” (*Matthew for Everyone*, pp.96-7)
- Jesus uses his authority very differently from the way those in authority over us often use theirs. Review the chart in question one; what do you learn about how Jesus views and treats people? (9:36; 20:25-28.)
17. It has been said that it doesn’t really matter how much faith you have; what really matters is the person in whom you are putting your faith. Look over today’s lesson. Matthew gets up and follows Jesus; what have we seen in this passage that makes you get up and follow Jesus?

* The 📖 symbol identifies verses for further study.