

Study 2 - Matthew 8:18-9:8

Q1 - What does it say?

- What different names or titles are given to Jesus?
- What does Jesus say or do to show his authority? Over what?
- Jesus calls forth a response with every person he encounters. Looking particularly at what they and Jesus **says**:
 - What does the response of each person/group to Jesus reveal about the motivation of their hearts?
 - What do/don't they seem to understand about who Jesus is?
 - What is leading or blocking them from coming to him?

Q2 - What does it mean?

Immediate context:

Verses 18-22 are a brief “intermission” from the action of 8:1-17 and 8:23-9:8 (each a set of three stories Matthew has chosen to place together).

- Why do you think Matthew has placed verses 18-22 here? What does it highlight in what comes before? In what comes after?
- Read 9:13 - How does Jesus reveal his mercy towards sinners in this weeks passage?

In Matthew:

Review Matthew 6:30-33 to hear Jesus' teaching on fear/anxiety and trusting in him.

Re: Following Jesus and Family - Matthew 10:34-39, 12:46-50, 19:29 (notice the “more than me”)

Elsewhere in scripture:

- Verse 19-22 - Repeated in Luke 9:57-60
- Verses 8:23-27 - Read Psalm 65:5-8, 107:23-32
- Verse 8:20 & 9:6 - Read Daniel 7:13

Note: Jesus original use of this OT description for himself reveals to us his own understanding of his identity and mission. For Jesus being the “Son of Man” ties together his divine authority and the humiliation and suffering he endured for the sake of accomplishing his mission on earth (Matt 1:21).

- Verse 9:6 - Read Jeremiah 31:34, Micah 7:18-20

Note: The forgiveness of sins we see Jesus give here goes above and beyond the Jewish expectation of the Messiah. In revealing his spiritual authority here, Jesus is going beyond this Jewish hope, bringing an eternal heavenly reality to bear on earth.

Q4 - How will I respond? What will I pray?

- From what we have seen in this passage, what does it look like to follow Jesus? What doesn't it look like? How does this convict, challenge, or comfort you? How then will you pray and ask for prayer?