

## Matthew 9 Jesus In Action

### Review/Intro

#### Matthew 9:9-13

##### - 9:9

- Still in Capernaum, walking along the water. Possibly a ferry tax booth. If so, probably he took taxes from Andrew and Peter, James and John.
- **Tax collectors**
  - **Jews who worked for Rome, seen as traitors. Very rich.**
  - **Collected tax plus extra. Allowed to keep whatever extra.**
  - **Not welcomed in synagogue nor at temple. Cut off from people and God.**
- **Follow me - come along behind me.** Why would he up and follow?
- There must be some back story or familiarity that isn't recorded.
  - Matt must have heard of Jesus and the miracles (band?).
  - may have heard Jesus teach before.
  - Probably there for the SotM. Possible he transcribed.
- Possibly explains why Matt up and followed. Where did they go? Not sure, but ended up at Matt's house.

##### - 9:10

- Either Matt was already planning a party or was able to put one together quick.
- When you aren't welcome at church, who do you hang out with? Other pol who aren't welcome at church!
- Disciples must have been very uncomfy, if not angry, but submissive to rabbi.

##### - 9:11

- Pharisees weren't at dinner. Was common to hang around the doors and windows to participate in the conversation.
- Eating with someone symbolically united you with that person. This was their objection.
- Devotion was demonstrated by work. Acknowledgement was though to be a blessed or at least not cursed life. Jesus is about to remind them of what it's all about.

- 9:12 Jesus wasn't trying to point out that the Pharisees were doing just fine, but that these people that needed help, help that the Pharisees should have been giving freely.

- 9:13 Always the rabbi, going to scripture

- **Go and learn** - spoke to them the way a teacher would to a student!
- They didn't have chapter and verse divisions. Jesus is referring to a section of scripture, not just these few words. Read **Hosea 6:4-6** for the feel.
  - **mercy not sacrifice** - love in action, not just ritual
  - **knowledge of God not burnt offering** - know God, His ways, and do them
- **Pharisees, do you want to show your devotion to God? Then share your love for Him with others.**
- This point was supposed to be absorbed by those who were His disciples. They had been raised with a Pharisaical mindset, until now. Personal, not detached experience with tax collector!

- How about you? Are you so preoccupied with your spiritual status that you've forgotten your spiritual purpose?

### Matthew 9:14-17

- 9:14 Questions were a way to learn, not always a challenge. Commonly fasted on the 2nd and 5th days of the week.
- 9:15-17 Jesus uses three pictures they all would have understood to communicate this idea; there is a time for this, and a time for that.
  - In other words, **don't do the right thing at the wrong time.**
  - There is a time for fasting, separation, preparation.
  - There is also a time for flexibility and action.
  - Reiterate

### Matthew 9:18-26

- The woman
  - Would have been considered unclean. No synagogue, temple, physical contact.
  - Physically, emotionally, financially drained.
  - Willing to try anything, superstitious. Not just a little-stitious.
    - Cures of the day; carry an ostrich egg around, carry around barley kernels that had passed through a white donkey.
    - Thought if she just touched this guy's clothing, wasn't going for the hem, though the hem is very significant.
  - **She came to the end of herself and had nothing left but Jesus.** Sometime, Jesus answers in spite of us coming in the wrong way.
  - **Jesus heals the un-healable.**
- Jairus, ruler of the synagogue, and his daughter
  - Pastor of the local synagogue. Reputation, status.
  - Had probably heard of Jesus, perhaps He had already taught there. No doubt heard of other healings.
  - Daughter already dead, funeral was already underway.
  - **He came to the end of himself and had nothing left but Jesus.** Sometimes when it seems to late, Jesus answers anyway.
  - **Jesus wakes the un-wake-able.**

### Matthew 9:27-31 Jesus heals the blind

### Matthew 9:32-34 Jesus casts out a demon and give a man his voice back

### Matthew 9:35-38 Compassion in action, pass it on

### Wrap up

- In all of this, Jesus is fulfilling the scriptures concerning the Meshiach. These are the signs.
- In all of this, Jesus is demonstrating in word and in action what He wants His disciples to become.

- In all of this, Jesus is showing us literally and figuratively what He came to do, and what He wants to do in and through our lives today. What is that? **Gospel.**

- Follow Jesus. Stop following whatever you are following (or is leading you) and come along behind Him.
- Don't do the right thing at the wrong time. Be aware of what time it is.
- Sometimes you need to come to the end of yourself. Jesus can heal the un-healable and wake the un-wake-able.
- Jesus gives clarity of vision, mind, and voice, in order to glorify Him.

- Let's get real. Does having Jesus in your life make a difference? Asking myself as well. If not we need to ask ourselves

- are we following?
- is our timing off because we are ignorant?
- have we come to the end of ourselves?
- have we sought Him out to clear our vision, mind, and voice?