

# Together with Jesus

## Week 5 – Matthew 9 and 10 – Healings and Discipleship

Matthew 9:1-8

### Forgiving a Paralytic

Jesus returns to Caesarea, His base of operations. While He is there, some people bring a paralytic to Him. Surprisingly Jesus' response is "your sins are forgiven!" This causes a stir and gives an opportunity for Jesus to show who He is.

- **Healing is easier to prove in this section than forgiveness. What is the "proof" of your forgiveness?**

Matthew 9:9-13

### Matthew Called a Disciple

Jesus calls Matthew as His disciple. Similar to Peter, Andrew, James, and John, Matthew leaves behind his former vocation immediately and follows Jesus, causing a stir.

- **What do you imagine Matthew was thinking when Jesus called him? When he overheard the Pharisees?**

Matthew 9:14-17

### Fasting and the Bridegroom

Joining the questions of the Pharisees, we find the disciples of John the Baptist asking questions of Jesus' uncommon ways of leading His disciples.

- **What customs would it be difficult for people in the church to give up today?**

Matthew 9:18-34

### The Ruler's Daughter and the Woman

Matthew artfully shows Jesus healing two women.

- **How are the two healed women different? What do the two share in common?**

Matthew 9:35-10:5

### The Lord of the Harvest and Disciples

Jesus heals many and tells His disciples to pray for harvest workers. This is followed up by the first listing of the 12 apostles.

- **What is the "harvest" that Jesus is talking about here?**

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**Matthew 10:5-23**

**Jesus' Instructions to His Disciples**

Matthew gives us another section of Jesus' instructions, here to His disciples as they go out

- **How do these instructions connect with us today?**

**Matthew 10:24-39**

**Discipleship Further Explained**

Jesus speaks more about discipleship and what it means to be His disciples with both challenges and assurances.

- **What challenges do you recognize here? What assurances?**

**Matthew 10:40-42**

**The Reward of Following Jesus**

Jesus briefly explains the connection between Himself, the Father, and His disciples, including dealing with the issues of desired rewards for following Him.

- **How do you understand the connection between yourself, Jesus, and the Father?**

**Red Letter Challenge this week – Return to Your Home and Proclaim**

This week, take Jesus' words from Luke 8:39, "Return to your home and proclaim all that God has done for you" to heart. This week speak to the people you live with – roommates, spouses, children, etc – and frame your conversation about the day in terms of what God has done for you.