

## **Matthew 9:18-38**

### **The Official's Daughter and the Woman Who Touched Jesus' Cloak (18-26)**

- ◆ While Jesus was saying this, a Jewish official came to him, knelt down before him, and said, “My daughter has just died; but come and place your hands on her, and she will live.” So Jesus got up and followed him, and his disciples went along with him. A woman who had suffered from severe bleeding for twelve years came up behind Jesus and touched the edge of his cloak. She said to herself, “If only I touch his cloak, I will get well.” Jesus turned around and saw her, and said, “Courage, my daughter! Your faith has made you well.” At that very moment the woman became well. Then Jesus went into the official's house. When he saw the musicians for the funeral and the people all stirred up, he said, “Get out, everybody! The little girl is not dead—she is only sleeping!” Then they all started making fun of him. But as soon as the people had been put out, Jesus went into the girl's room and took hold of her hand, and she got up. The news about this spread all over that part of the country.
- ◆ Faith faith faith. The lady with the bleeding disease had faith, she believed that if she was to touch Jesus cloak she would be healed; it happened just like that. “Her faith earned brought her healed” said Jesus. Her faith made her go to touch Jesus’ cloak. Do we have faith that if we kneel to pray, call out to Jesus or anything of that sorts – our needs will be met? We should have that faith, our God is still the same as the God of yesterday; he can do anything for us if we believe in him or call to him in faith.
- ◆ The official had faith, he went to Jesus and asked him to come wake his daughter. This is some level of faith, on a funeral day he left everything and went to seek Jesus. Faith made this official act in an abnormal way according to human standards. When things are not going well, faith takes away our concern for the things and makes us trust God; we’ll find ourselves seeking after God for he is the one with our deliverance. That’s some level of faith that we should all uphold.

### **Jesus Heals Two Blind Men (27-31)**

- ◆ Jesus left that place, and as he walked along, two blind men started following him. “Have mercy on us, Son of David!” they shouted. When Jesus had gone indoors, the two blind men came to him, and he asked them, “Do you believe that I can heal you?” “Yes, sir!” they answered. Then Jesus touched their eyes and said, “Let it happen, then, just as you believe!”— and their sight was restored. Jesus spoke sternly to them, “Don't tell this to anyone!” But they left and spread the news about Jesus all over that part of the country.
- ◆ “Do you believe that I can heal you?” Jesus asked the two blind men who had come to him. When we pray or call to the Lord, do we believe that he can do what we’re asking for or we’re just praying because we’re trying our luck? All we do should be done in faith.

## **Jesus Heals a Man Who Could Not Speak (32-34)**

- ◆ As the men were leaving, some people brought to Jesus a man who could not talk because he had a demon. But as soon as the demon was driven out, the man started talking, and everyone was amazed. “We have never seen anything like this in Israel!” they exclaimed. But the Pharisees said, “It is the chief of the demons who gives Jesus the power to drive out demons.”
- ◆ Let’s bring those who need healing to Christ through prayer, teaching them about God and any other way. God will help them. The dumb man who had a demon was brought to Jesus and received deliverance.

## **Jesus Has Pity for the People (35-38)**

- ◆ Jesus went around visiting all the towns and villages. He taught in the synagogues, preached the Good News about the Kingdom, and healed people with every kind of disease and sickness. As he saw the crowds, his heart was filled with pity for them, because they were worried and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. So he said to his disciples, “The harvest is large, but there are few workers to gather it in. Pray to the owner of the harvest that he will send out workers to gather in his harvest.”
- ◆ What was happening then is still happening today. People are worried and helpless, they don’t know or believe in God who can carry burdens only if they carry his cross or follow him. Let’s also pray that God sends workers to teach people about the Kingdom.

**In these verses we saw faith in action, faith expressed in different ways, faith that brought healing and faith that made people ignore their problems but seek Christ. Let’s be people of faith and we should follow its path though it might be contrary to popular doctrine. Faith and its actions (James 2:14-26)**