

## A Study of the Book of Matthew: Chapter 9 v. 23-34

- **After healing the woman that was bleeding, Jesus continues on his way to heal the ruler's daughter. (v. 23-26)**
  - When Jesus enters the home there is a large crowd of mourners, but Jesus lets them know the girl is not actually dead, and the group ridicules or “laughs” at Him. (v. 23-24).
    - In Jewish society it was common for “more important” tragedies to have large groups of mourners, and performers such as the flute players were hired to make the mourning an even larger ordeal. For this reason, these performers “laugh” at Jesus; they aren't truly grieving over the girl, but believe Jesus to be crazy because they had “seen” plenty of people that had passed.
  - After Jesus sends out the people he goes to the girl and takes her hand, and she immediately wakes up. (v. 25-26)
    - Though it's not mentioned what specific illness caused the girl to be asleep, Jesus once again is able to heal someone and word of his actions continues to spread.
  
- **After healing the ruler's daughter, Jesus leaves there and encounters two blind men that want to have their sight restored. (v. 27-31).**
  - How do these men refer to Jesus when they encounter Him? \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 27)
    - Despite having no physical sight, these two men have the faith to acknowledge that Jesus is the Son of God! How does their faith/actions differ from the Pharisees? \_\_\_\_\_
    - The Pharisees are able to see Jesus perform miracles countless times with their own eyes and still come up with reasons to deny that Jesus is the Messiah, but the blind men believe by simply hearing of what Jesus has done.
  - Jesus then restores the blind men's sight, but first asks the men if they believe he is able to do it. (v. 28-29)
    - Why does Jesus heal the blind men's sight? \_\_\_\_\_
    - As with many miracles before this one, Jesus heals the physical ailment of these men because of their Faith! More importantly than fixing the physical issues, Jesus' focus was and ours should be, on making people SPIRITUALLY well.
  - After Jesus heals their sight, He tells the men to tell no one. How do they respond? \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 30-31).

- Though the men disobey Jesus' command, it is not meant maliciously and we have something to learn from them. The excitement these men have about being restored should be the same excitement we carry when telling others about Christ!
- **As Jesus departs from the house, He is brought another person in need of healing! (v. 32-24).**
  - Once again Jesus is able to heal the man of his demon-possession and the man is able to speak. What caused the man to be healed? \_\_\_\_\_
    - As with all of the healings that occur in Matthew Chapter 9, the man is healed because of the people's FAITH to bring him to Jesus. Jesus heals all of the people mentioned because they believed that He could!
  - What is interesting about the response of the crowd in verse 33? \_\_\_\_\_
    - As mentioned by Jesus in Matthew 7:22, there will be people who claim to have performed miracles in Jesus' name, and the people in the crowd would have most likely heard about these "miracles". The difference is Jesus performs these things truly in the name of God, and they are undeniable.
  - What response do the Pharisees have to this final miracle? \_\_\_\_\_ (v. 34)
    - Despite seeing these miracles happen in person in God's name, the Pharisees refuse to acknowledge Jesus as God's Son and continue to blaspheme against Him.