

SERMON REFLECTIONS

Faith That Amazes Jesus

Matthew 8:5-13 | 8 August 2021

Read Matthew 8. Today's lesson is about Faith.

1. The Roman centurion had hundreds of gods/goddesses (Roman, Greek, Egyptian, etc.) he could worship, but he chose to believe and trust in Jesus Christ. We have many spiritual choices – many religions, philosophies and valuable earthly things that can occupy our passion and pursuits – money, fame, success and power.
 - Why did you put your faith in Jesus? Why trust Him?

2. We are encouraged to pray as Christians, but we also experience God not answering some of them, even when we desperately cried out to Him. In the sermon, Pastor Aaron mentioned three reasons why God does not answer our prayers:
 - a. Will of God
 - b. Sin factor
 - c. Faith factor
 - Are there prayers that God has not answered you – what could be the reason/s?
 - What can we do in response if it is God's will, if there is a sin factor, and if we need to grow our faith?

3. Many Christians backslide and walk further from Jesus because there is no growth in their faith.
 - How can we grow our faith?
 - Share steps you can take immediately and in the near future. (E.g. if you want to pray for healing for someone who is suffering from a serious disease, what can you do to grow your faith?)

Our Vision

To be disciples of Jesus Christ

Our Mission

We exist to make disciples who love God, love one another and love the lost



4. Faith in Christ is to honour Jesus as Lord of our lives.
 - How can we honour God, as individuals / family / DG / church?

Summary of Pastor Aaron's sermon on Matthew 8:5-13

1. Faith is to believe in Jesus Christ; in God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.
 - a. With so many (spiritual) choices, why go to Jesus?
 - We have encountered Jesus in a tangible way.
 - We have experienced divine peace and love.
 - We have explored the Bible and found it is reasonable and can stand up to scrutiny – from logical, intellectual, historical, scientific, prophetic and moral viewpoints.
 - b. Faith is to know Jesus Christ personally, as Father, Friend, knowing that He is loving, kind, powerful and just.
2. Faith is to honour Jesus as Lord in our lives.
 - a. How do we honour Him?
 - Our punctuality at worship service
 - Our relationship with others
 - How we work
 - The use of our resources
 - b. Why are some prayers answered, and some not?
 - Will of God (mystery)
 - Sin factor
 - Faith factor
3. Faith must grow and that requires Obedience to God's Word.
 - Recognises absolute authority of Jesus
 - Connected to God's Word
 - Like a muscle – the more we use, the stronger it becomes
 - Believing and acting without doubt, through written Word and guidance from Holy Spirit
 - The more we obey, the more our faith will grow