



SMALL GROUP CURRICULUM

Sermon: **“Jesus Heals Peter’s Mother-in-Law” (Matthew 8:14-17)**

Date: **June 9, 2019**

We are back in Matthew this week as we continue to work through Matthew 8. In this week’s text, Jesus takes the time to visit Peter’s house and see his mother-in-law who is sick with a fever. Jesus does not hesitate to heal her. After word spreads that Jesus is in Capernaum, many come to visit Jesus to be healed by him. He continues to avail himself and care for those that come to him. He casts out demonic spirits and heals all who are sick. This week as we study Matthew 8:14-17, we will reflect upon the person, work, and attributes of Christ. We will see that this story teaches us about the unconditional love of Christ – that he loves simple, normal, everyday people. It will remind us that Christ is worthy of our worship and so we should organize our lives around him. We will reflect upon the availability of Jesus – that he ministers to all who come to him. And we will finish by looking at the mission of Jesus – that he ultimately came to die as a Suffering Servant.

What you need for this study: Bible, Notebook, Pen

Individual Bible Study

1. Please read Matthew 8:14-17 and ensure that you’ve listened to Sunday’s sermon.
 - a. In verse 14, Jesus enters Peter’s house. Who was Peter? Why is it noteworthy that Jesus took the time to visit Peter’s house? What does this teach us about Jesus?
 - b. What does Jesus do to Peter’s mother-in-law? What does this teach us about Jesus?
 - c. According to John 1:43-44, where was Peter originally from? According to Mark 1:21 (the context of a parallel account of this story), where does Peter currently live?
 - d. It seems as though Peter has moved (Luke 18:28 could hint to this as well). Why is this significant and what does this teach us about Jesus?
 - e. Read Mark 1:21-31. What day of the week is it? What has Jesus done so far on this day?
 - f. Jesus has had a very busy day to say the least. And yet, as ‘many’ were brought to him in verse 16, he continued to minister to people. What does this teach us about Jesus?



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- g. What Old Testament verse is quoted in verse 17? What is the context of that quote? Why is this significant?
- h. This text starts to bring home the idea of substitutionary atonement and the fact that Jesus is the suffering servant described in Isaiah 53. Explain the idea of substitutionary atonement.

Group Discussion Questions

1. How did the Holy Spirit speak to you through the sermon and the Bible study this week?
2. Jesus took time out of his schedule to visit Peter's family and heal Peter's mother-in-law. Put yourself in Peter's shoes. How do you think you would have felt and how would you have reacted if you were Peter? Why?
3. Jesus is able to heal with a single touch (v. 15) and cast out demons with a single word (v. 16). What does this teach us about Jesus? How might reflecting upon the power of Jesus Christ shown in a passage like this help fuel our prayers?
4. Some televangelists and so-called "faith healers" claim to have the power to heal people. Some promise that if someone just has enough faith then Jesus will heal them. Can this be true? Why or why not? How should we respond to these kinds of teachings?
5. Peter likely moved from Bethsaida to Capernaum to be closer to Jesus. What do we learn from this? What are practical ways that we can similarly prioritize our lives around the worship of Jesus?
6. Verse 17 explains that Jesus fulfilled Isaiah 53:5. Have someone read all of Isaiah 53. What does this passage teach us about Jesus' suffering and death? What does it predict about Jesus' atonement? Why is it necessary to believe this?