

MATTHEW



Lesson #9 The King Demonstrates His Authority Matthew 8:1-9:34

Those who have had the true identity of Jesus ***revealed*** to them will ***respond*** with ***faith*** and with ***following***.

1. Jesus' Identity Revealed

2. Responding to Jesus as God: *'I believe and I will follow You!'*

a. Respond with Faith

b. Respond with Following

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Apply to Our Story

- 1) Do you find it easier to respond to Jesus with faith or with following? Why?

- 2) The world calls us to pursue a life of comfort and convenience. Jesus calls us to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow Him. Which call is more compelling to you as you go about your ordinary day to day life? What are some ways to dampen the world's call in our ears so we hear the call of Jesus more clearly?

- 3) Pray for one another as we seek to respond well to who Jesus is, with faith and with following. Consider using Colossians 2:6-7 as a prayer prompt in closing: "Just as you accepted Christ Jesus as your Lord, you must continue to follow Him. Let your roots grow down into Him, and let your lives be built on Him. Then your faith will grow strong in the truth you were taught, and you will overflow with thankfulness." Colossians 2:6-7

As an example of how to do this if you want to pray this for each other in pairs tonight:

Father God, thank you for making Jesus known to () and for enabling her to accept Him as both Savior and Lord. Please help () to follow Jesus as Lord every day. Please settle her deeply and securely in Christ, so that her life is built upon Him. Would you strengthen () in her faith so that she does not merely believe the facts about Jesus but entrusts her entire life to Him, casting her whole self upon You, our Rock and our Redeemer? And please, help () to continually respond with overflowing thankfulness for who You are and for all You have done and are doing still. In Jesus' name, Amen.