

Be a fan of Jesus to Increase your faith

May 24, 2020

Matthew 9: 14-31

If you like sports or are a fan of anything- you will get this analogy. When we like something- I mean really, really, really, like something- we are a fan. We wear our teams favorite color, we do not miss a game, we make sure to tell everyone about why we love that team and those players!

If you want to increase your faith in Jesus- BE A FAN

- Make sure you know as much as you can about Jesus
 - Read the Bible every day: Deuteronomy 6:6
- Pray without ceasing I Thessalonians 5:17
 - so, your mind becomes open to believe in God
- Make sure people you meet know that you represent Jesus- when the time is right.
 - In Matthew 9 there are a few instances of healing. Jesus tells some to tell about the healing and others not to. Why- It does not matter why Jesus asks the two blind men not to tell anyone. What matters is to be obedient regardless of the why. Matt 9: 30-31

Timing is everything when sharing the Gospel of Jesus. Be sure to be obedient with your faith ...

Matthew 9:14

Fasting is important because it allows us to abstain from fleshy pleasures and to be laser- focused on Jesus and our personal walk with Christ.

Jesus is letting John's disciples and the Pharisees understand the importance of when and why we fast. Jesus identifies himself as Yahweh/ the bridegroom

Isa. 54:58

For your Maker *is* your husband,
The LORD of hosts *is* His name;
And your Redeemer *is* the Holy One of Israel;

He is called the God of the whole earth.

⁶For the LORD has called you
Like a woman forsaken and grieved in spirit,
Like a youthful wife when you were refused,"
Says your God.

⁷"For a mere moment I have forsaken you,
But with great mercies I will gather you.

⁸With a little wrath I hid My face from you for a moment;
But with everlasting kindness I will have mercy on you,"
Says the LORD, your Redeemer.

Theme throughout Matthew 9:

One MUST have Faith to be made whole; physically & spiritually

Question: What stops us from having faith in Jesus?

1. Our ability
2. Our doubt
3. Our anger
4. Our pain

Q: How do we reconcile with God? Through the acceptance of Jesus Christ

A: Obedience of faith- the 2 blind men disobeying Jesus Matt 9:30-31

II Corinthians 5:17-18

¹⁷Therefore, if anyone *is* in Christ, *he is* a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new. ¹⁸Now all things *are* of God, who has reconciled us to Himself through Jesus Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation,

Matthew 9:20-22

Q: What does Jesus mean by the phrase: "Take heart...." When healing the woman with an issue of blood

A: I believe being a follower of Christ is participatory- thus we MUST be part of the process of reconciliation, healing, restoration, and faith/hope

Q: Did Jesus heal the woman or did her faith in Jesus heal her?

Well if you believe that your involvement in your walk with Jesus matters then you believe that the woman had to have faith in order to be healed- anything aside from that is not free will.

We MUST turn our heart, soul, spirit, mind- every area of our life to Christ Jesus

Question: What will help you to be a person of higher and deeper faith in Jesus?

Our faith is made complete when:

James 2:22

:You see, his faith and his actions worked together. His actions made his faith complete.:

Hebrews 11:6

"Without faith it is *impossible* to please Him"

Additional Reading for Matthew 9:

<https://www.cgg.org/index.cfm/fuseaction/Library.sr/CT/BS/k/1504/Miracles-Jesus-Christ-Healing-Two-Blind-Men-Part-Two.htm>