

‘Come,’ and he comes. I say to my servant, ‘Do this,’ and he does it.¹⁰ When Jesus heard this, he was astonished and said to those following him, “I tell you the truth, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith.¹¹ I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven.¹² But the subjects of the kingdom will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”¹³ Then Jesus said to the centurion, “Go! It will be done just as you believed it would.” And his servant was healed at that very hour.”

3. Jesus had Compassion on two _____ men.

MATTHEW 8:28-34: “When he arrived at the other side in the region of the Gadarenes, two demon-possessed men coming from the tombs met him. They were so violent that no one could pass that way.²⁹ “What do you want with us, Son of God?” they shouted. “Have you come here to torture us before the appointed time?”³⁰ Some distance from them a large herd of pigs was feeding.³¹ The demons begged Jesus, “If you drive us out, send us into the herd of pigs.”³² He said to them, “Go!” So they came out and went into the pigs, and the whole herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and died in the water.³³ Those tending the pigs ran off, went into the town and reported all this, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men.³⁴ Then the whole town went out to meet Jesus. And when they saw him, they pleaded with him to leave their region.”

4. Jesus had Compassion on a _____.

MATTHEW 9:9-13: “As Jesus went on from there, he saw a man named Matthew sitting at the tax collector’s booth. “Follow me,” he told him, and Matthew got up and followed

him.¹⁰ While Jesus was having dinner at Matthew’s house, many tax collectors and “sinners” came and ate with him and his disciples.¹¹ When the Pharisees saw this, they asked his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and ‘sinners’?”¹² On hearing this, Jesus said, “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick.¹³ But go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, not sacrifice.’ For I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

5. Jesus had Compassion on a _____.

MATTHEW 9:20-26: “Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak.²¹ She said to herself, “If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed.”²² Jesus turned and saw her. “Take heart, daughter,” he said, “your faith has healed you.” And the woman was healed from that moment.”

6. Jesus had Compassion on the _____.

MATTHEW 9:35-36: “Jesus went through all the towns and villages, teaching in their synagogues, preaching the good news of the kingdom and healing every disease and sickness.³⁶ When he saw the crowds, he had compassion on them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.”

FINAL THOUGHTS

Jesus is the same compassionate Savior today as he was when he walked this earth. It was His great compassion for us and our sinful condition that led him to suffer on the cross and rise from the dead. He is now resurrected, exalted, and reigning as our compassionate, merciful, and faithful high priest (Hebrews 2:17-18; 4:14-16).

SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Announcements: Join us on **Friday April 17 @ 7 p.m** for the showing of "**Fireproof**" the movie. Childcare and refreshments will be provided as well as an opportunity to sign up for a "Fireproof" small group, purchase a copy of "**The Love Dare**" book, and a chance to win a great gift basket.

Prayer: Take time to pray for each other's needs.

1. In Matthew 4:18-22 Jesus calls his first disciples, then he ascends a mountain and from Matthew 5-7 he preaches a sermon known as "*The Sermon on the Mount*". When Jesus comes down from the mountain, we find him performing 10 miracles in Matthew 8-9. *What are Jesus' disciples doing from Matthew 4:18-9:38? What does he want them to do according to Matthew 9:35-10:1? What lesson can you take to heart from this passage?*

2. Read through Matthew 8-9. How many miracles does Jesus perform in these chapters?

3. In performing miracles, Jesus display's his authority as the Messiah over what aspects of life?

4. How did people respond to the various miracles that Jesus performed? In answering this question be sure to note the varied responses of the crowds, disciples, & the Pharisee's.

5. Matthew 8-9 emphasizes Jesus' compassion for those in the 'crowd' who came to him with their needs. Many of these individuals were 'untouchable' according to society. Who in our culture is viewed as 'untouchable'? How might SMC extend the compassion of Jesus to them?

6. Do you think most people view Jesus as a 'compassionate' savior? How might this message help people to think correctly about Jesus?

Pray: Take time to pray for a compassionate heart.

"JESUS & THE UNTOUCHABLES"

Matthew 8-9

Easter Sunday April 12, 2009

Pastor Cory Anderson / SMC

Introduction:

1. Jesus had Compassion on a _____.

MATTHEW 8:1-4: "When he came down from the mountainside, large crowds followed him. ² A man with leprosy came and knelt before him and said, "Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean." ³ Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" Immediately he was cured of his leprosy. ⁴ Then Jesus said to him, "See that you don't tell anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the gift Moses commanded, as a testimony to them."

MARK 1:40-41: "A man with leprosy came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." ⁴¹ Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" ⁴² Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured."

2. Jesus had Compassion on a _____.

MATTHEW 8:5-13: "When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help. ⁶ "Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed and in terrible suffering." ⁷ Jesus said to him, "I will go and heal him." ⁸ The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹ For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one,