



The Way of Mercy

Brent Moody · Matthew 9:36–38 · Series: **The Way of Jesus**

INTRODUCTION

- We're moving now into a section where Jesus is now living the gospel of the kingdom. He is demonstrating in his life what this is going to look like.
- As Jesus looks out at the people, sometimes thousands of people who are following him, he has compassion.
- What we're seeing here in the very beginning of his ministry is that he has a mission of mercy.

1 Jesus' Mercy for All: Boundary Breaking

Matthew 8:1–2; Matthew 9:2; Matthew 9:11–13

- There are boundaries, and Jesus has established them in chapters 5 through 7. Yet at the same time as he is boundary making, he is also boundary breaking.
- He is willing to go sit with tax collectors and sinners.
- Take heart, my son, your sins are forgiven. That's what truly mattered.
- What's most important to him is that we are in a right place spiritually. That we are not paralyzed within, with sin.
- Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means. I desire mercy and not sacrifice, for I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.
- It doesn't matter what situation you're in, what sort of vile sins you have participated in, you will receive mercy from Jesus if you fall at his feet.

2 Power and Authority

Matthew 8:2–3; Psalm 107; Matthew 9:33

- Compassion is a noble feeling. It's a good thing. And we should have compassion even when we don't have much power to help.
- The mercy of Jesus really implies or demonstrates his authority and his power.
- Part of what's happening here is not just the demonstration of Jesus' mercy, but also it is a proclamation of Jesus' authority and power.
- His mercy is a demonstration of the power within him.
- Matthew wants us to be impressed with the unparalleled power of Jesus Christ.
- The people are saying, never was anything like this seen in Israel. Something is different here.

3 Our Need to Trust

Matthew 8:8–10; Matthew 9:22; Matthew 9:28–29

- It's not just the power and the amazement of physical healing, it's the idea of rescue, of deliverance, of salvation.

- When you are in desperation, you look for the answers that can actually help.
- With no one in Israel have I found such trust or faith. Do you believe Jesus? That's the message of this text.
- Even in the weak moments when things don't seem right and we're not sure we have the right answers, we know at least where we can go in faith in Jesus.
- Do we trust Jesus enough to bring our friends to Jesus? Do we really think he's the answer?
- Maybe it is that we believe he has the power, but do we believe he's actually merciful enough to help us?

THE CHALLENGE

Do you trust him? Do you have faith? That he can take a life of sin and he can turn into a life that is lived for his glory and his purposes.

MY NOTES
