

Two Foundational Truths to Live By

Matthew 9:1-8

Introduction:

- Which is more important: knowledge or wisdom?
 1. This is not a v_____ question.
 2. You can have knowledge without wisdom but you cannot have wisdom without knowledge – knowledge is f_____ to wisdom.
- Matt 9:1-8 gives two foundational truths (k_____) that we must live by (w_____).
- The context of this story
 1. Jesus goes by boat back to His **own city**. Which city is it?
 - a. Nazareth b. Bethlehem c. Capernaum(The previous story points us to the answer)
 2. Matthew is not c_____ about the details of this event:
 - a. Not the t_____ (several days after the previous event)
 - b. Not the specific p_____ (took place in Peter's home)
 - c. Not the identity of those c_____ the paralytic (four friends)
 - d. Not the extreme e_____ “they” took into getting the paralytic before Jesus (digging into the roof)
 3. Matthew is concerned about the reaction of the s_____ and the c_____.

Foundational Truth #1 – Only God can forgive sins (2,3)

- Jesus sees their f_____, and tells the paralytic that his sins are forgiven.
 1. Some scribes considered this a b_____ because they believed that only _____ has the power to forgive sins. Were they wrong?
 - a. Believers have the obligation to forgive the offender (those who have sinned _____ them - Matt 6:12), but they have no power to forgive the sin.
 - b. Believers can d_____ a person's sins as forgiven if they trust in Christ (Jn 20:23) because their sins are a_____ forgiven by God.
 2. Many vainly try to gain forgiveness of their sins by:
 - a. Making sure their g_____ outweighs their b_____.
 - b. Doing certain religious r_____.

- God forgives ALL the sins of ALL those who have f_____
 1. The sacrificial system (the Old Covenant) was instituted by God to t_____ the people that sin required a p_____ sacrifice (Heb 10:4 – the sacrifice could not forgive sins)
 2. Jesus put the New Covenant into effect by His b_____ which does forgive sins (Matt 26:28; Lk 22:20)
 3. There is never a time where sin is on the r_____ of the believer. God forgives every sin the moment it is committed (Jer 31:34).
- Therefore, live by f_____ in Jesus.

Foundational Truth #2 – Jesus is God in the flesh (3-8)

- Jesus did two things to reveal His identity as God in the flesh
 1. He declared the scribes' t_____
 - a. The phrase can be translated as *they said* (1) *to themselves*; (2) *among themselves*; or (3) *within themselves*. The context demands us to choose _____.
 - b. Only God has the a_____ to read minds (I Kgs 8:39; Prov 15:11) and Jesus declares that He Himself has this ability in Rev 2:23.
 2. He commands the paralytic to do the impossible (g_____ up, p_____ up his bed, and go home)
 - a. He prefaces this by saying – *so that you may k_____ that the Son of Man has the power to forgive sins*).
 - b. Since m_____ only come from God, if Jesus could not forgive sin the miracle would not have happened.
Since only God can forgive sins, then Jesus must be God!
- How many KNOW that Jesus is God but don't live by it?
 1. S_____
 2. All d_____
 3. Many l_____ people
- How do you live by this truth?
 1. Live in such a way that d_____ that Jesus is the God of our lives.
 2. Proclaim Jesus as God in the flesh to all who will l_____ (Rom 10:17)