

5. How can we create a culture within our families and church community that fosters an expectation and anticipation of God's miraculous work?

6. Most of the people in the amazed crowds never became followers. What are some differences today between a person in the crowd and a person who follows Jesus?

7. Read Isaiah 35:3-6 and Luke 7:20-23. How would John the Baptist find assurance in Jesus' reply to his question about whether or not Jesus was "the One"?

8. What is something you can do now in your life to be enlisted in Jesus's mission to the world?

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## SERMON APPLICATION GUIDE

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### Meeting Jesus

"Do I Have Enough Faith?"

Matthew 9:27-34

The \_\_\_\_\_ of faith, not the quantity, matters most to God.

### The Kind of Faith that Matters to God

1. God wants a faith that \_\_\_\_\_ him, not just believes in him or in his abilities.

Two men who can't see see what no one else has seen—Jesus is the \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus draws a line connecting their belief that he \_\_\_\_\_ heal to their healing.

\_\_\_\_\_ is a matter of trust; disobedience is mistrust.

Jesus doesn't say that in proportion to the amount (i.e. quantity) of their belief, they are healed. Faith undoubtedly plays an important and vital role in the healing, but it doesn't play the \_\_\_\_\_ role in Jesus's choice to heal them.

When obedience means you'll have to go against your own instincts or interest, it will require taking a \_\_\_\_\_.

Without risk there is no \_\_\_\_\_.

2. God wants a faith that \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus, not just admires him.

There's a clear distinction in the gospels between the \_\_\_\_\_ and those who follow.

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Where is God leading you with your BLESS list this week?



Most in the crowds turned out to be \_\_\_\_\_, not seekers.

God calls us to be followers—that means disciples, students, \_\_\_\_\_. Following Jesus is a relationship with him and his other followers. The Bible speaks of it as a walk and as a path. And it's an identity.

Jesus invites us into a way of life that \_\_\_\_\_ around him, his priorities, his agenda, and his glory. And that's good and what's best for us because there's no one better to follow, no better priorities, no better agenda, no greater glory.

Following Jesus is a relationship with him and his other followers. The Bible speaks of it as a walk and as a path. And it's an \_\_\_\_\_.

3. God wants a faith that \_\_\_\_\_ in his mission, not just conforms to his moral values.

How could the Pharisees miss the truth of who Jesus was when they were so \_\_\_\_\_ to Scripture and living by the ethics God prescribed in the Bible?

The Pharisees were very focused on moral living, but they missed God's call to missional living rooted in \_\_\_\_\_.

#### Works Consulted and Resources Recommended:

- Meador, Jake. "The Misunderstood Reason Millions of Americans Stopped Going to Church: The Defining Problem Driving People out Is ... Just How American Life Works in the 21st Century," *The Atlantic*, July 29, 2023.
- Davis, Jim, Michael S. Graham, and Ryan P. Burge. *The great dechurching: Who's leaving, why are they going, and what will it take to bring them back?* Grand Rapids: Zondervan, 2023.
- The "As in Heaven" Podcast, Season 3. May 2, 2023.
- The Matthew 1-13 Overview video at the [BibleProject.com](https://www.bibleproject.com)

#### Personal Reflection & Small Group Questions

Please complete this study on your own, then bring it to your small group for discussion.

1. Looking back over your notes from this week's sermon, what particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?
2. Describe something you've seen that has amazed you.
3. Read Matthew 9:27-34. What different responses to Jesus do you see in the text?
4. What does Jesus' question to the blind men about their belief reveal about a connection between faith and healing?