Informal Bible Study Discussion Guide for the Gospel of Matthew Chapter 9

Overview and Big Picture

Overview

Chapter 8 and chapter 9 go together. Matthew chose to dedicate these two chapters to featuring certain miracles that our Lord performed. Keep in mind that the purpose of Matthew's gospel is to present Jesus Christ as the promised King and Messiah to the nation of Israel. Matthew presents overwhelming proof, and the miracles of chapters 8 and 9 are a big part of that proof.

Understanding this makes what happens at the end of chapter 9 concerning the religious leaders of Israel all the more shocking. Look for that when we get there.

Let's begin by having someone read the 9th chapter of the gospel of Matthew.

Big Picture Questions

1.	What are the	three major	things Jesus	does to move His	s public ministry	forward in chapter 9?
----	--------------	-------------	--------------	------------------	-------------------	-----------------------

2. What are three things that Matthew wants us to take with us from the material in chapter 9?

3.	3. List the 5 miracles that are recorded in chapter 9. What do they all have Jesus perform each miracle?	in common?	Why does
4.	4. How do the miracles of chapters 8 and 9 support the main theme of the ghelp with this, read Isaiah 35:5-6 and Zephaniah 3:15-17.	gospel of Matt	thew? For
5.	5. What do the events of chapter 9 reveal about the King, Jesus Christ? Fo Acts 10:34-43 – especially verses 38 and 43.	or help with th	is, read

6.	Matthew, in chapters 8 and 9, presents the miracles of Jesus. For each group of miracles, Matthew also describes the response or reaction that different people have to those miracles. What responses/reactions does Jesus get to His miracles in chapter 9? From whom? See if you can put the different responses into categories, and also describe the kinds of people who had the different responses or reactions.
7.	What role do the reactions of people play in shaping the story line of the gospel of Matthew? In answering, consider the fact that the overall purpose of the gospel of Matthew is to document the arrival of the King and the proclamation of the gospel of the Kingdom.
8.	In chapter 9, Jesus for the first time in His public ministry encounters opposition from people. Identify the <u>four forms</u> of opposition to Jesus that surface in chapter 9. From whom ? Concerning what things ?

9.	The events of chapter 9 give a foreshadowing of things to come in the gospel of Matthew. How do the reactions of people in chapter 9 give you a sense of how things are going to turn out with respect to the King and His mission to bring out the kingdom of God for the nation of Israel at this time?
10	. If you were asked to give chapter 9 a title, what title would you give it?