

## Our Response to Jesus' AUTHORITY

Matthew 8

### 1. Response to Jesus' AUTHORITY over sin and disease

- a. Leper...true faith in what Jesus could do but **not obedience** to what He commanded

*John 14:23-24*

*<sup>23</sup>Jesus replied, "Anyone who loves me will obey my teaching. My Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. <sup>24</sup>Anyone who does not love me will not obey my teaching. These words you hear are not my own; they belong to the Father who sent me.*

- b. Roman Officer...true **faith in action**
- c. Woman...experiencing Jesus' healing followed by **service with gratitude (worship)**

### 2. Response to Jesus's AUTHORITY requires our trust and commitment

- a. We must know the cost of our commitment
- b. He must be first over all our life's responsibilities and comfort

### 3. Jesus proves AUTHORITY over His creation

- a. Over the storms in nature
  - i. Caused amazement in the follower's eyes
- b. Over Satan's power (Unclean Gentiles, demon-possessed, living in a graveyard)
  - i. Caused fear in the observer's eyes.

### Discussion Questions:

1. What main thought did you take away from your study of Matthew 8 this week?
2. How do you define God's authority? How does God's authority conflict with our own authority? What should our response to God's authority always be?
3. Why is it so hard to submit to God's authority rather than our own? Why does our culture fight against doing things to honor and/or obey God's commands?
4. When has God proven his authority in your life? Was your response more like the leper, the centurion, the woman, the crowd, or the healed demoniac? What would help us improve our response?