

Thursday, 1/19

The power of the resurrection is at work in God's people today. As we study and discuss His Word may His power be transforming us.

Read Matthew 9:14-26 and Psalm 103.

Discuss Jesus' ability to heal the sick and raise the dead. Who is He who can do such things? What does faith in Him mean?

Sing the song "There Is a Redeemer."

1. There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God's own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy One. *chorus*
2. Jesus my Redeemer, name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, O for sinners slain. *chorus*
3. When I stand in glory, I will see His face,
And there I'll serve my King forever, In that holy place. *chorus*

Chorus
Thank You, oh my Father,
For giving us Your Son,
And leaving Your Spirit
'Til the work on earth is done.

Pray for the church plants of our presbytery in Manchester and Lebanon, for the gospel to bring healing & life to the people of New England.

Friday, 1/20

Join folks from CTR for Friday morning prayer starting at 7:00 am each Friday morning. It is held at Payson Park Evangelical Church on Ocean Ave.

Read Matthew 9:27-34 and Acts 5:12-16.

Meditate on the cry of the blind men: "Have mercy on us, Son of David." What do you believe Jesus is able to do? How are you acting?

Pray for Portland and Southern Maine. Pray that her people would see our need for mercy and cry out to the only true King.

Saturday, 1/21

Prepare for worship tomorrow by not only reviewing the following devotional materials, but also by preparing what you can today to avoid rushing tomorrow.

Read Matthew 9:35-10:42.

Meditate on the faithfulness of the Lord of the harvest.

Pray for workers for the harvest field. Pray that God would raise up men and women, boys and girls to be His representatives to a lost world. Pray for church planters to come and join us in Northern New England. Pray for folks at your school, in your neighborhood and work site to be turned from self-seekers to fellow workers in the Lord's harvest.



CHRIST the REDEEMER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

KINGDOM AUTHORITY

Matthew 8:5-13

Sermon notes from 1/15/06

Mr. Per Almquist

Text

- ⁵ When Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, asking for help.
⁶ "Lord," he said, "my servant lies at home paralyzed and in terrible suffering."
⁷ Jesus said to him, "I will go and heal him."
⁸ The centurion replied, "Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. ⁹ For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes. I say to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."
¹⁰ When Jesus heard this, he was astonished and said to those following him, "I tell you the truth, I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith. ¹¹ I say to you that many will come from the east and the west, and will take their places at the feast with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven. ¹² But the subjects of the kingdom will be thrown outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."
¹³ Then Jesus said to the centurion, "Go! It will be done just as you believed it would." And his servant was healed at that very hour.

Message

**Faith is about quality not quantity.
Our faith is:**

I. In Christ's Authority

II. Under Christ's Authority

Application

- Please consider the following, asking the Holy Spirit to guide you:*
- Where do you still harbor pride in your life?
 - Where do you still have faith in an authority beside Christ?
 - What are your prejudices?
 - Where have you not let Christ's authority reign?

Taking Gathered Worship Home—Family and Individual Devotions

How do we as a community of faith live out the gospel truths we hear from God's word each Sunday morning in gathered worship? One of the means God uses to apply His word in our daily lives is the regular devotional reading and studying of His word as families and individuals. CTR wants to encourage you to dig into the gospel of Matthew throughout the week. Here is a guide for how you might do that.

Sunday, 1/15

This day is uniquely set aside as a day to worship and enjoy God. We encourage you to use the bulk of this Sunday immersing yourself in God's Word.

Read the context for this morning's sermon: Matthew 8:1-9:38. This is the second of Matthew's records of Jesus' deeds and words.

Discuss the sermon, reviewing the points & application questions. How did communion drive home the gospel from this passage?

Sing one of the songs from the worship service today.

Pray for someone in worship this morning. Pray for someone you would like to see come to worship with you. Pray through the upcoming week asking God to strengthen you to obey Him wherever you go.

Monday, 1/16

As you return to work or school, complete chores around the house, or enjoy time with friends, how do you live out the radical claims of Christ?

Read again the passage from yesterday's sermon: Matthew 8:5-13.

Meditate on the centurion's words *"Lord, I do not deserve to have you come under my roof. But just say the word, and my servant will be healed. For I myself am a man under authority, with soldiers under me. I tell this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and that one, 'Come,' and he comes."*

Pray: "Heavenly Father, show me how I do not obey Christ as my true King. Teach me to obey. Fill my heart with love for Your Son, that I may more and more be like Him in bringing You glory."

Prayer for the Week

O God Most High! Everlasting Lord, mighty and lifted up, grant to us Your Holy Spirit, that in these words of Holy Scripture our hearts might be lifted up and our minds set on heavenly realities, that contemplating the reign of our ascended Lord we might long to be with Him and enter into the joy of His eternal kingdom. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

Tuesday, 1/17

For whom are you praying in your neighborhood, office, school, or family? What does this passage have to say about how you love them?

Read Matthew 8:14-27 and Psalm 93.

Discuss what it means to follow someone with this kind of authority.

Sing the song "At the Name of Jesus."

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| At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow, | Brothers, this lord Jesus shall return again |
| Every tongue confess Him king of glory now, | With his Father's glory o'er the earth to reign. |
| Tis the Father's pleasure we should call him lord, | For all earthly powers meet upon his brow |
| Who from the beginning was the mighty Word. | And our hearts confess him king of glory now. |

Pray for someone you know who is afraid and hurting. Pray that God would heal them and comfort their fears. Pray for someone you would like to see follow Jesus. Pray and ask God to work through you as an agent of healing to those hurting.

Wednesday, 1/18

"This is the day that the Lord has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it." How will you praise and thank God today?

Read Matthew 9:9-13, the calling of Matthew. Read also Luke 5:27-31.

Meditate on Jesus' words: *"I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners."* What do you find compelling about the way Matthew records his own calling by the Lord? How do you view your own calling?

Pray: "Holy Father, how is it that You who are holy can call people such as us into Your kingdom? Help us to respond with joy, to invite many fellow sinners to come and hear Your words of freedom from our sin. Teach us mercy that we may share it generously."