

Date: _____



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Jesus Is the King Series, Lesson 39

Lesson Title: The King Is a King

Take Home Point: Jesus is the King and has power to help you.

Warm-Up:

Jack Kevorkian is a medical doctor, with the education and degree to enable him to practice medicine. Dr. Kevorkian knows what needs to be done for people to be physically healed (within the limits of modern medicine). The state of Michigan granted him the authority to treat medical conditions. However, in recent years, Kevorkian misused that authority to encourage and be part of doctor-assisted suicide. He did not do what needed to be done for his patients, so people died or were hurt, with the result that the authority granted to him was taken away.

Read: Matthew 7:28-8:17

Observation (What happened?):

What were the different conditions that Jesus healed in these verses?

Did every person who was healed have to ask Jesus for the healing?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think Jesus healed people?

What did Jesus demonstrate about himself and who he is by healing diseases and permanent conditions such as paralysis?

Insight:

Jesus has eternal authority granted to him by his Father (read John 17:2). In the healings of Matthew 8 and other Scriptures, Jesus demonstrated his power and authority in specific ways. He showed he had authority over temporary conditions (Peter's mother-in-law's fever), permanent conditions (the centurion's servant), and even congenital conditions (the man born blind in John 9—quite an account!). While living on this earth as a man, Jesus also healed many spiritually; read Mark 5:1-20 for a particularly moving example. Jesus healed not only to ease the suffering of people whom he loved very much, but also to demonstrate that he had full authority over everything seen and unseen. He proved he could be trusted. And while Jesus didn't need the cooperation of faith for healing to occur, he worked most wonderfully when belief was evident. Contrast Matthew 9:18-29 with Matthew 13:53-58 for vivid illustrations.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

Ask God to show you where in your life you need to accept the authority of Jesus over your thoughts, emotions, or choices to let him heal and make you whole.

Think of one story from your own life of Jesus doing for you what you needed to be done. Tell someone that story this week.