

Be Reformed – Open the bible: study, dig and ask what the main point of the passage is

Be Charismatic – Expect the Holy Spirit: ask God to speak, minister, build up and lead us to maturity

Be Community – Love God's people: share vulnerably, apply, pray and build each other up

Be Missional – Win the world: apply lessons to outreach, make content accessible to non-Christians

Matt 9:14-34

14 Then the disciples of John came to him, saying, "Why do we and the Pharisees fast, but your disciples do not fast?" 15 And Jesus said to them, "Can the wedding guests mourn as long as the bridegroom is with them? The days will come when the bridegroom is taken away from them, and then they will fast. 16 No one puts a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment, for the patch tears away from the garment, and a worse tear is made. 17 Neither is new wine put into old wineskins. If it is, the skins burst and the wine is spilled and the skins are destroyed. But new wine is put into fresh wineskins, and so both are preserved."

18 While he was saying these things to them, behold, a ruler came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died, but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." 19 And Jesus rose and followed him, with his disciples. 20 And behold, a woman who had suffered from a discharge of blood

for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his garment, 21 for she said to herself, "If I only touch his garment, I will be made well." 22 Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. 23 And when Jesus came to the ruler's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, 24 he said, "Go away, for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. 25 But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl arose. 26 And the report of this went through all that district.

<CONTINUE TO READ MATT 9:27-34>

Also read:

John 3:25-30

Acts 5:41-42

Romans 8:18

1 Corinthians 1:2-3

John 5:37-38

Study Guide 10 Oct 2010 – Faith in Christ



Summary

Jesus does not just forgive sins, but here and now transforms those He saves, sanctifying them into His example on the way to eternity.

Responding to John's disciples, Jesus says that the old patterns of religious behavior will not fit the new reality of His salvation. Jesus calls Himself the bridegroom – the source of our joy. He was taken away and crucified but is now alive forever. We have faith in this truth.

Our uncleanness does not sully Jesus – His holiness and power is so much greater that as we draw close to Him, it is His cleanness that makes us clean.

Faith is simple and uncomplicated. Faith is translated into action and changes our lives. Faith is founded in God. It is not something mustered up internally, like a mantra of willpower, but a total reliance in surrender to the power and goodness of God.

Key points

Our salvation in Christ should be so definitive of us that it utterly changes our perspective on everything else that happens.

Explanation

>>Are miracles and even scientific proof enough to convince people to have faith in Christ?

>>What is the relationship between faith and action?

>>What is the effect of faith?

Application

>>Ask God to let every thing that happens to you this week be tinted in the coloured lens of your salvation in Christ.

>>Let us stop throughout the week and consider the wonders of Christ which we have let slip by because of our busyness or lack of appreciation.

Final thoughts

God wishes to lavish us with His goodness and spiritual riches, and has chosen that the channel of this must be through faith in Jesus Christ.