

Assignments on Matthew 9

Please read Matthew 9 (note parallels in other accounts) and answer these questions.

1. Where did Jesus go? Who was brought to Him there – 9:1,2? What did Jesus say to the man? (Think: According to other accounts, what was unusual about how the man came?)
2. What criticism did some scribes raise – 9:3? Explain why they might think this.

3. **Special Assignment:** Who has power to forgive sins committed against God? List other passages in which Jesus forgave sins. What does this prove about Jesus' nature?

4. What application can we make to men today who claim the power to forgive sins?
5. What question did Jesus ask the men – 9:4? What can we know from the fact that Jesus could read these men's thoughts (compare 1 Kings 8:39)?
6. How did Jesus prove that He had the power to forgive sins – 9:6,7? Explain how the miracle proves His power to forgive.

7. **Special Assignment:** What effect did the miracle have on the people – 9:8? How does this event demonstrate the purpose of miracles?

8. What characteristics of true miracles are demonstrated in this event?
9. Where did Jesus find a man next? What was his name – 9:9? What instruction did He give him, and what happened? (Think: What other name does this man have elsewhere?)
10. What criticism was raised of Jesus in 9:10,11? What illustration did He use to respond – 9:12,13? Explain the point. (Think: Whose house was this?)

11. **Application:** What Old Testament passage did Jesus quote – 9:12,13? Explain it. What lesson should we learn about teaching others?

12. Who asked a question of Jesus, and what did they ask – 9:14? What illustration did He use to answer them – 9:15?

13. List other passages about fasting. What was its purpose?

14. **Application:** Is fasting a required practice today? Does it have benefits to us today?

15. Describe the two illustrations that Jesus used in 9:16,17?

16. Explain the lessons we should learn from these illustrations. (Think: Does the illustration of the wineskins justify the practice of modern social drinking?)

17. Who came to Jesus, and what request did he make – 9:18? According to other accounts, what was the man's name, and how old was his daughter?

18. What problem did a woman have? How long had she had it – 9:19-21? What did she do, and why? (Think: What information do other accounts add about the woman's problem?)

19. What did Jesus say to the woman – 9:22? What was the result? (Think: What can we learn about miracles from this example?)

20. When Jesus arrived at the ruler's house, what did He see and what did He say – 9:23,24? How did the people react? Explain the reaction.

21. What did Jesus do with the girl – 9:25? What was the result – 9:26?

22. **Case Study:** Many modern so-called faith healers claim to do miracles just like Jesus and His apostles did. Compare what such people do to what Jesus did in this case.

23. Who followed Jesus, and what request did they make – 9:27? What question did He ask, and what did they answer – 9:28?

24. What did Jesus do for the men – 9:29,30? Why was this miracle especially amazing? (Think: Were people always required to have faith in order to receive the effects of a miracle?)

25. What warning did Jesus give the men? What did they do instead – 9:30,31? (Think: Did Jesus ever want people to know about the miracle? Why might He have given this warning?)

26. What problem did the man have who was brought to Jesus in 9:32,33? What did Jesus do for him?

27. How did people react to the miracle? But what did Pharisees say about it – 9:34?

28. **Special Assignment:** Although they denied the source of Jesus' power, note that His enemies could not deny the miracles. List other passages in which unbelievers admit the occurrence of miracles. What lessons can we learn?

29. What work did Jesus do according to 9:35? What caused Him to have concern for the people, and what illustration is used – 9:36? Explain it.

30. What concern did Jesus express to His disciples – 9:37? Explain the illustration.

31. What did He instruct the disciples to do as a result – 9:38? Explain how such a prayer could be fulfilled.

32. **Application:** What lessons should we learn from this story about our own prayers? If we pray such a prayer, what responsibility would this give us?