

WHAT DO YOU LOOK LIKE - LESSION 1

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Genesis tells us that God created mankind in His image and His likeness. Humans are the Image-bearers in the earth.

- Genesis also tells us about the tree incident and the resulting fall of mankind—
- We lost the ability to represent God in the earth
- At the appointed time Christ died...
- Colossians 1:13-14 tells us about redemption and restoration.

Restored to what?

- The original image of God!
- What does God look like?
- Colossians 1:15 & Hebrews 1:3 tells us!
- Jesus is the revealed image of God...

So, if we look like God and Jesus is the revealed image of what God looks like, then we need to know what Jesus' life lived looked like and we will know what we look like.

- We are seeking to find the answer to the question, 'what do you look like?'

Matthew

- Chapter 3 verse 13-17 tells us about Jesus' baptism.
- Chapter 4 He's fasting 40 days and nights in the wilderness.
- At the close of His fast, the accuser comes to test Him.
- Matthew 4:1-11
- What we can learn from studying His interaction with the accuser is that Jesus always answered him with the Word of God—Truth.
- That's our example.
- When the accuser comes, in whatever form it may be, always speak the Truth—that is what defeats them.

Let's read Matthew 4:17

- Keep turning away from your sins and come back to God, for Heaven's Kingdom realm *is now accessible!*
- This is the message that Jesus preached and it hasn't changed.
- We are to preach this message, too.

Matthew chapters 5,6, & 7 is where Jesus is teaching about the Kingdom's constitution and how life is lived in the Kingdom realm.

- **Let's read Matthew 7:28-29**
- The crowds were dazed and overwhelmed by His teaching!
- Because His words carried such great authority...
- Jesus knew what He was talking about—the Kingdom realm!
- That's the Good News—humans have access to the Kingdom again!

So Jesus has just spent hours teaching about the Kingdom and now He's ready to go home.

- **Matthew 8:1-4**
- Jesus is headed home and all the people are following Him
- Suddenly a leper throws himself down in front of Jesus and begins to worship Him.
- He says what He believes—he knows Jesus has the *power to heal him*
- But he's unsure if Jesus WANTS to...
- Look what Jesus does—IN FRONT OF ALL THE FOLKS FOLLOWING HIM!
- He TOUCHES the leper—who is considered unclean—it's against the law!
- But He does it anyway—He's living in the Kingdom realm—by the Spirit not by the law!
- Jesus answers the leper—of course I want to! BE HEALED!
- Imagine the reaction of the crowd when Jesus touched the leper....
- They are not happy...they are horrified...they are indignant...angry...
- Does Jesus care? Does what they might think stop Him?
- This is what WE look like!
- **Lesson learned--**

- Do not be intimidated by what other folks might think, say, or react—that's not who you are.

A day in the life of Jesus: He's all day at a teaching seminar; on the way home, He heals a leper and then when He enters Capernaum:

- **Matthew 8:5-13**
- All day teaching and when asked to go to the Roman's house to minister to his son, Jesus doesn't even hesitate!
- Notice what Jesus said! I will go with you and heal him!
- A Roman officer!
- Do you see what impresses Jesus?
- A good understanding of AUTHORITY!
- The son was healed that very moment.
- **Lesson learned—**
- **Treat everyone the same—no matter who they are: Christian or some other religion; American or foreigner; friend or enemy, etc.**
- **Freely give what you have been given no matter how long your day has been or how challenging your day has been.**
- **Be impressed with faith—not a person's position, wealth, or talent.**

So, Jesus arrives at Peter's house where they would be staying and upon arrival He finds Peter's mother-in-law sick and bedridden.

- **Matthew 8:14-15**
- At just His TOUCH, she was instantly healed.
- Can you see the compassion He had for her?
- He had stayed with Peter before; He knew this woman; He cared about her and was concerned about her condition.
- He truly loved this woman.
- She was not some project to say He performed another healing.
- Imagine the scene: He's been gone all day, people constantly pulling on Him and He just wants to get home, have supper and relax.
- But when He walks in the door, He's greeted with another emergency.
- NONE of this is in His head—He never thinks about Himself first.
- He immediately goes to Peter's mother-in-law.
- He doesn't even say anything!

- He just touches her, and she's instantly healed and gets up and helps prepare supper!
- **Lesson learned:**
- Love and compassion—that's who you are.
- It's not what you do, but it just flows out of you, sometimes without any words at all, because that is who you are.

Now the day is winding down, they've had supper and are just wanting a quiet evening; maybe talk about the seminar and the miracles they witnessed that day—but that didn't happen.

- **Matthew 8:16-17**
- The folks in Capernaum brought all their sick loved ones to Peter's house after supper!
- AND JESUS HEALED THEM ALL!
- The demonized were set free and the sick received their healing!
- **Lesson learned:**
- Just as Jesus fulfilled His purpose, we should fulfill ours; we are commanded by our King to cast out demons and heal the sick—it is not optional—we should be doing this every day.

Now, you would think that Jesus would make everyone go home so He could

get some sleep, but look what He does instead:

- **Matthew 8:18-22**
- Remember, the whole town of Capernaum had gone to Peter's house.
- Jesus healed everyone.
- Everyone there saw miracle after miracle after miracle....
- Don't you know that place was pumped up!
- Everyone was gathering around Jesus and He knew they wanted to make Him their earthly king—not the King of their heart.
- How do we know this?
- Hear what the folks were saying to Him—I'll follow You anywhere!
- Even in the midst of what surely must have been chaos, Jesus was teaching them—count the cost; don't put off what needs to be done today; put first things first...
- **Lesson learned:**

- Listen to folk's hearts and tell them the Truth.
- We need to count the cost; and don't put off what needs to be done today, as well as putting first things first.

So, Jesus doesn't send anyone away, but instead, in the middle of the night, and it was the middle of the night, because He probably spent hours ministering to everyone, He and His disciples get in a boat and head for the other side.

- **Matthew 8:23-27**
- Jesus was exhausted...
- He fell asleep and while He was sleeping a violent storm developed.
- Yet even in the midst of this violent storm, He continued sleeping!
- The disciples had to wake Him up.
- Notice their perspective: WE ARE GOING TO DIE!!!
- Notice Jesus' response to this perspective: He reprimanded them!
- WHERE IS YOUR FAITH?
- After the day they lived in His presence and they still had not learned anything...
- Jesus SPOKE and all was calm...
- **Lesson learned:**
- Don't fall back into the self-conscious perspective—stay with the single eye.
- Take your stand on what you believe—your faith—and speak to the storms that come to you.

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Jesus and His disciples make it to the other side by morning and it's a new day in the life of Jesus.

- **Matthew 8:28-34**
- What a way to begin the day!
- This was a Holy Ghost set up!

We will discover what the set up was this Friday night at our Bible Study where we will continue to follow Jesus through the Gospels and discover what we look like—who we really are!