

WHAT DO YOU LOOK LIKE - LESSON 3

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LESSONS LEARNED:

1. Do not be intimidated by people.
2. Treat everyone the same.
3. Freely give what you have been given no matter how long your day has been or how challenging your day has been.
4. Be impressed with faith.
5. Don't lose sight of who you are—love and compassion.
- 6. It's not what you do, but who you are.**
7. Fulfill the great commission that was given to you.
8. Listen to folk's hearts and tell them the Truth.
9. We need to count the cost; and don't put off what needs to be done today, as well as putting first things first.
10. Don't fall back into the self-conscious perspective—stay focused with the single-eye.
11. Take your stand on what you believe and speak to the storms that come.
12. Pay attention to the signs of the times you are living in and use that knowledge to render the enemy impotent.
13. Have a thorough understanding of your authority and how to use it.
14. Understand how the Kingdom operates.

THESE LESSONS LEARNED ARE NOT THINGS ON A CHECK LIST THAT YOU **DO**, BUT IT IS WHO YOU **ARE**.

- This is your character.
- Character is not what you DO, but it's who you ARE.
- It's the 'oops! I should not have done that' times that the supernatural grace of God is released through our repentance and comes over us and changes our nature and our character into the image of our Father!
- It's at those times that we are fathered by God and educated in who we really are.

Matthew chapter 9
Verse 1-8

- Jesus was asked to leave the region of the Gadarenes; and so, He did.
- When the folks in Capernaum heard that Jesus had returned, some folks brought to Him another sick man.
- Notice that Jesus ‘perceived’ the strong faith in their hearts.
- Can you hear them?
- “Jesus! Jesus! Help us! We know You want to heal our friend!”
- Jesus recognized their faith when they spoke out what was in their hearts.
- And He knew it was a strong faith, not just high hope...
- Look what He did: He SPOKE to the sick man.
- “MY SON” ... those words told the sick man that he was accepted by God.
- “Be encouraged” ... Jesus saw something in this man, depression—and it wasn’t because of his physical condition.
- “your sins are forgiven” ... the sick man’s conscience was defiled, and he had lost hope;
- But Jesus reminded him of who he was and the hope that was his because of the covenant he had with God.
- Of course, the religious folks got offended...
- But notice how Jesus handled that...
- He called them out on it!
- How can someone change if they don’t know they need to?
- Watch what Jesus does next:
- He SPOKE to the sick man with instructions to activate faith...
- ‘I say to this man, “Stand up, pick up your mat, and walk home.”
- IMMEDIATELY the man sprang to his feet and headed home!
- The crowds were awestruck!
- And they praised God for the authority He had given human beings...

Verse 9-13

- So, Jesus left Capernaum on a speaking tour of the Judean region.
- He came upon a tax collector.
- To the Jew of that day, anyone who worked for the Romans were considered a traitor.
- So, for Jesus to appoint Matthew as one of His disciples was shockingly offensive.
- But He did it anyway!
- He even went to Matthew's home and got very comfortable there!
- It didn't bother Him when Matthew invited all his lowlife friends over for a dinner party, so they could meet Jesus, too.
- Watch how Jesus handled criticism...
- HE SPOKE UP!
- He told them the truth and pointed out where they needed some instruction!

Verse 14-17

- Jesus is on the move again.
- Now some disciples of John the Baptist question Him.
- The question was about fasting.
- Jesus is teaching on fasting.

- He is teaching them that fasting under the old covenant is different than it is under the new covenant.
- But it can also be applied to the differences between the old covenant and new covenant—read the notes from the Passion Translation.

Verse 18-26

- As Jesus is holding this conversation, an important official approaches Jesus with an urgent request to come heal his daughter.
- Before we study this out, let's read the notes from the Passion Translation, it has an interesting symbolism.

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- Back to verse 18 and 19
- Notice that he was an important official, but He recognized that Jesus had something that he needed, and he humbled himself.
- You can bet that Jesus took notice of that...
- Do you see the man's faith?
- He spoke what was in his heart—Come and place your hand on her and she will live again.
- JESUS RESPECTS FAITH!
- He got up, left the conversation He was in, and went with the official to do what the man had asked of Him.
- SUDDENLY... He was interrupted from His mission by a woman on a mission herself.

- I always thought the woman touched the bottom of His tunic, but the Passion Translation sheds new light on what it was that she actually touched.
- It was His prayer shawl...
- The blue tassel on the corner of the prayer shawl was said to symbolize all commandments and promises of God. (Numbers 15:38-40)
- The Hebrew word for 'fringe' or 'border' (of a garment) can also mean 'wing'.
- Some have interpreted Malachi 4:2 (healing in His wings) as a reference to the tassels of the prayer shawl.

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- This woman had faith that Jesus would heal her, and Jesus recognized it.
- Watch what Jesus did when He recognized her faith:
- He SPOKE, 'My daughter'; 'be encouraged'; YOUR faith has healed you!
- Again, He told her she was accepted.
- 'Have courage'!
- You got what you believed for!

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- Jesus finally arrives at the official's home and finds noisy mourners.
- He tells them to leave, but not because they had no faith—
- Listen to what He told them—
- The little girl is not dead—we don't need mourners—leave...
- They thought He was crazy!

- Do you see that He spoke the desired end result—the little girl is just sleeping...
- He spoke what was in His heart; AND He spoke it before folks who believed just the opposite of what He believed!
- **Their opinion held no weight in what He believed.**
- Notice that even in the midst of the ridicule, He still made the mourners leave.
- Matthew's account has Jesus taking the little girl's hand and she immediately stands to her feet, other Gospel accounts have Jesus speaking to the little girl, 'Talitha cumi' 'Damsel, I say to you arise'...
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Verse 27-31

- Watch this, as Jesus is leaving the house—two blind men began following Him.
- Why? Because they had just heard about the woman getting healed and then the little girl being raised from the dead!
- They didn't waste any time in finding Jesus...
- After hearing all that He was doing, they believed He was the Messiah—the son of David who would come and restore sight to the blind...
- Notice that they followed Jesus right into the house where He was staying...
- All the while crying out to Him for their miracle...
- Watch the way Jesus handles this situation.
- He asks them a question, so they could put words to their faith...
- **YOU WILL HAVE WHAT YOUR FAITH EXPECTS...**
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Verse 32-34

- While the blind men were leaving...
- Some other folks brought a demonized man who was mute
- Jesus cast out the demon and the man could speak plainly
- Notice the religious folks.
- Giving credit to the devil instead of to God...

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Verse 35-38

- Jesus visited all the towns and villages with the joyful message of God’s Kingdom...
- He taught in their meeting houses...
- He demonstrated God’s power...
- How?
- By healing EVERY kind of disease and illness...
- His heart hurt for the masses—because of their condition—lost, weary, helpless...
- Notice who He turns to for help—His disciples!
- He wants us to pray for more laborers...

Lessons Learns:

1. Look for faith...
2. Recognize offense and deal with it.
3. Embrace interruptions as opportunities to see God move.
