

Sermon Study

Not Dead

Mathew 9:18-26

MIRACLE KINGDOM

vision

Eastview
Christian
Church is a
fearless church
of Christ
followers whose
ridiculous love
and dangerous
witness are
irresistible.

AUTHOR'S NOTES (summary of key points for this study)

In Matthew 9:18-26, we see one of three instances in Jesus' ministry in which he raised someone from the dead. Each is a glorious prelude to his own resurrection in which he overcame death and the grave. His authority over death becomes our authority over death; and that is the beauty of the resurrection story.

Gather (your group getting to know each other)

Resurrection Sunday celebrates the day Jesus came out of the grave to return to Heaven fully alive for all time. How did you celebrate that good news?

Go (your group on mission)

Consider how your group might act together to reach those yet to understand the power of the resurrection.

Grow (your group growing as Christ-followers)

Key Scripture: Matthew 9:18-26

Discussion

1. Pray for God to reveal Himself through His Word.
2. Read Matthew 9:18-26 out loud:
¹⁸ While he was saying this, a synagogue leader came and knelt before him and said, "My daughter has just died. But come and put your hand on her, and she will live." ¹⁹ Jesus got up and went with him, and so did his disciples.

²⁰ Just then a woman who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years came up behind him and touched the edge of his cloak. ²¹ She said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be healed."

²² Jesus turned and saw her. "Take heart, daughter," he said, "your faith has healed you." And the woman was healed at that moment.
²³ When Jesus entered the synagogue leader's house and saw the noisy crowd and people playing pipes, ²⁴ he said, "Go away. The girl is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him. ²⁵ After the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took the girl by the hand, and she got up. ²⁶ News of this spread through all that region.
3. What does this text say about the character of God?
4. In last week's study we read Matthew 9:1-8 where Jesus declared that that he has the authority and power to forgive sins. In the text above, he demonstrates that he has power over death itself. How does the progression of stories in Matthew's gospel prepare us for Jesus' death and resurrection?

5. Are there other examples of Jesus bringing people back from death? Discuss the similarities.

6. What is common among the people that Jesus heals? How does faith in his power relate to healing—to overcoming death?

7. How do you think about death differently than before you understood his power over death?

8. What do you struggle with when thinking about death?

9. Faith doesn't eliminate mourning. There is a time and a purpose for mourning. But there is simultaneously joy in considering an eternal life with Jesus. Discuss those statements and consider how we can help one another in times of mourning.

10. Celebrate the victory of Jesus over death and the promise to all believers for eternal life by sharing your "death to life" story of salvation.

Give (your group serving each other)

Spend time in prayer thanking Jesus for His unwavering commitment to accomplish His mission on Earth. Practice answering this question: "Why would you believe that this resurrection story of Jesus is true?"