

## 1. Intro

- Parallel passages to today's text: Matthew 8:1-4, 9:1-8, Mark 1:40 - 2:12
- So far in Luke, we've seen that Jesus has authority over:
  - The devil (4:1-13)
  - The demons (at Jesus' command, they came out of people - 4:41),
  - Nature (Jesus filled Simon and Andrew's fishing nets with fish - 5:1-11).
- Today we'll see that Jesus also has authority over diseases and He has the authority to forgive sins.

## 2. Text: Luke 5:12-26

### Luke 5:12

- In 1st century Jewish culture, lepers were viewed as **outcasts** of society.
  - The Law of Moses required lepers to live in isolation apart from the rest of society.
  - **Lev. 13:45-46**
  - Having leprosy was a sentence of a slow death while living in social isolation.
- 1st century Jews believed leprosy was a **judgment** of God for sin.
  - We can conclude, then, that the leper in this story was considered worthless and good-for-nothing.

### Luke 5:13-16

- Jesus healed him and his leprosy **instantly** disappeared!
- Jesus has **authority** over sicknesses and diseases.
  - Jesus may not choose to heal all believers immediately, but He will heal **every** believer eventually!
- Jesus reached out and actually **touched** this man who was considered to be sinful and good for nothing!
  - Jesus had **compassion** for the outcast leper!

- **Mark 1:40-42** - “A man with leprosy came and knelt in front of Jesus, begging to be healed. “If you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean,” he said. Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out and touched him. “I am willing,” he said. “Be healed!” Instantly the leprosy disappeared, and the man was healed.”
- Jesus ministered to vast crowds of people. He needed rest, and He often withdrew to the wilderness to **pray**.
  - If Jesus needed to withdraw to pray, then you and I definitely need to, as well!

### **Luke 5:17-26**

- Jesus reveals that He has the authority to **forgive** sins.
  - What did Jesus see in the men that caused Him to forgive? **Faith**
  - We’re tempted to think that faith in Jesus isn’t good enough for forgiveness; Jesus says faith is the only thing that’s good enough!
  - Jesus proved He was God and had the authority to forgive by miraculously healing the paralyzed man (which was also something that only God could do!).

### **3. Application:**

- Have you placed your faith in Jesus alone for the forgiveness of your sins?
- Do you truly believe that Jesus has forgiven you of your sins?
  - **Romans 5:6-11**
  - **Colossians 1:19-22**