

OASIS SERMON NOTES

WEEK OF OCT 24, 2021

This week we explore two “signs” that Jesus performs that reveal who he is and the answer to our human need. These two encounters that Jesus has speaks to the issue of faith and challenges us to put our trust in him which requires a response to his invitation to be made whole. Whether its faith for a friend in need or faith for your own personal challenges, let’s keep our eyes focused on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

My Story

1. What is a current life challenge you have, or a dear friend has, that you deeply desire Jesus to address?

Digging Deeper

2. John 4:46-50. A royal official who had a son critically ill heard that Jesus was in town. While many people looked to Jesus for miraculous signs, this man looked to Jesus and exercised faith in the spoken word of God.
 - a. What’s the difference between people who only look to God to get them out of a challenging situation vs people who turn to Jesus in faith?
 - b. Do you tend to turn to God only to get the result you are looking for or do you turn to Jesus out of a desire for relationship?
 - c. Relationship with Jesus requires faith and action. Are you willing to act upon the expressed word of God concerning your situation or do you tend to hear God’s answer and look for a different viewpoint from others?

3. John 5:1-9a Jesus encounters a hopeless invalid who had been sick for thirty-eight years. Jesus cuts through the mans excuses and poses a critical question for anyone who has been “stuck” in life.
 - a. What was the man’s excuse for not getting better? What may be your excuse?
 - b. Do you truly have a longing to get better or are you content with remaining self -centered seeking only to receive sympathy from others?
 - c. Jesus asks the man a question that cuts to the heart of all of our physical and spiritual malaise. “Do you want to be healed?” In your discomfort and pain, do you truly want Jesus to heal you or are you content to continue making excuses and blaming others?
 - d. In what ways is Jesus commanding you to “Get up”? What is required of you to take such a step of faith?
4. John 5:9b-18 Jesus upsets the religious establishment by healing on the Sabbath. The religious Jews made ridiculous laws forbidding people to take excessive steps on the Sabbath or to carry items that would be seen as “working on the Sabbath”. The man Jesus healed was caught carrying his bed. Instead of celebrating the restoration of this man, the Jews looked to kill Jesus because he claimed his Father was working and was also making himself equal with God.
 - a. The healed invalid, upon learning it was Jesus who had healed him told others about what Jesus did. How often do you share with others what God has done for you?
 - b. How might your testimony of God’s grace not be received well from others?

Closing:

It is encouraging to know that God sees us in our situations and desires to make us whole. But more than just the benefits that we receive from him, he desires to have a relationship with us that compels us to exercise faith in him and obedience to him. Jesus shows us what God is like, even shattering our preconceived notions of what God can do in any given circumstance. Thank you Jesus for revealing the heart of the Father!