

TRUE FAITH & ITS DEVILISH COUNTERFEITS

Matthew 9:18-34

I. True faith desperately seeks Christ's kingly compassion (vv. 18-31).

II. False faith disdainfully slanders Christ's kingly compassion (vv. 32-34).

QUESTIONS FOR FAMILY WORSHIP

1. What is the relationship between faith and sincere discipleship?
2. What do we learn from these miracle accounts about the nature of true faith?
3. What are the three components of saving faith? Why are all three necessary?
4. Is faith itself what brought about these healings? Does faith itself save us? Why, or why not?
5. How do these stories reveal not only the power of Christ but also the compassion of Christ?
6. Unlike Jairus, the disabled woman, and the blind men, how do the crowds and Pharisees respond? What lessons can we learn from them?
7. How does God use hard things in our lives to make us desperate for Christ?

QUESTIONS FOR PRIVATE REFLECTION

1. How regularly do I ponder the compassionate heart of Christ toward sinners and sufferers?
2. Does my faith merely consist of knowledge and assent, or does it also include personal trust?
3. Does my own sin and suffering tend to drive me away from Christ or toward Christ? Why ought it to propel me to Him?