

Your Testimony to Them

2026-07-06 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



Matthew 8:1-4

FOR THE LEADER

These questions help you run the conversation. They are not your study. Get into the passage yourself first, because your group needs what God taught you, not just a list of questions. These also lean on Sunday's message, so a few will not land for anyone who missed it. Watch it before you lead.

WHAT THE MESSAGE WAS ABOUT

A man with leprosy knelt in front of Jesus and said: Lord, if you are willing, you can make me clean. He never doubted that Jesus could. He only wondered if Jesus would. Jesus touched a man nobody else would touch, healed him, and sent him to the priest as a testimony. Pastor Matt told his own story of a season when people treated him as contagious. And he made this point: a miracle you receive is never meant to stop with you.

To get started

- When has someone treated you normally at a moment you expected them to keep their distance?

Looking back at the message

Pastor Matt told a story about being avoided during illness. Let people connect to it before analysing it.

- 1 Pastor Matt described what it felt like when people kept away from him during an illness. What part of that felt familiar?
- 2 The leper never asked whether Jesus could heal him, only whether he was willing. Which of those two doubts usually sits behind your prayers, and why?
- 3 Pastor Matt said the healing was not only for the leper. It became a testimony for everyone who has read the story since. What do you make of that? OPTIONAL

Looking at the passage

Read Matthew 8:1-4 aloud. It is four verses; read it twice if the group is willing.

- 4 Read Matthew 8:1-4. What exactly does the man say, and what does Jesus say back?
- 5 Jesus touches him before he speaks the healing. What does the touch add that words alone would not?
- 6 Jesus tells him to say nothing but to show himself to the priest as a testimony. Who is the testimony for, according to the text?
- 7 Matthew puts this story right after three chapters of teaching. How does the order change the way you read it? OPTIONAL

Bringing it home

Uncleanness is the passage's word, not a word to put on anybody in the room.

- 8 The man could not change how people saw him without being changed. Where do people get stuck like that today?
- 9 Pastor Matt said we often come to God assuming our own strength is enough. What would bold and humble at the same time look like in your prayers?
- 10 Pastor Matt said God may have been working miracles you never recognized because you did not know how to look. What might that mean for something in your past?
- 11 If you had to name one thing God has done in you, what would you say? You can pass.

OPTIONAL

The group together

The last line of the passage is a public act. That is where this section is aimed.

- 12 Jesus sent the man to make it public instead of keeping it private. What makes telling hard for you?
- 13 Pastor Matt said this church exists because people asked what to do with a miracle they had received. What would that question mean for this group?
- 14 Who has been kept at arm's length that this group could simply move toward?

BEFORE YOU FINISH

What has God done in you that you have kept to yourself, and who might it belong to as well?

You might pray about

- For those who feel unclean or kept at a distance
- For boldness to approach God without demanding a timeline
- For a story someone here has never told out loud
- For eyes to recognise what God has already done