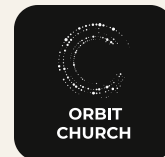


# Don't Miss the Real Miracle

2026-07-27 • PASTOR MATT ROSE



Matthew 9:1-8

## 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

Four men lowered their paralyzed friend in front of Jesus, and everyone expected a healing. Jesus said something else first: take heart, son, your sins are forgiven. The teachers of the law were furious, and their fury proves the point. Forgiving sins is the claim only God can make. Pastor Matt argued that the physical healing was actually the easier of the two things Jesus did that day. Alongside it he read Peter's mother-in-law, healed of a fever, who got up and began to serve. He called that the follow-up, and the follow-up is the real miracle. He closed with a question: what percentage of your life are you still withholding?

## To get started

- What is something you once wanted badly that you no longer want, or want differently now?

## Looking back at the message

Pastor Matt was careful not to dismiss physical healing. Keep that carefulness in the room.

- 1 Pastor Matt said the miracles he prayed for early in his faith are not the ones he prays for now. How have your own prayers shifted over time?
- 2 Pastor Matt said he would argue with anyone who claims God no longer heals, and in the same breath said there are better miracles to seek. How do those two fit together?
- 3 The real miracle in Peter's mother-in-law's story was the follow-up: she got up and began to serve. What do you make of that reading? OPTIONAL

## Looking at the passage

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Read Matthew 9:1-8 aloud. The objection in verse 3 is the hinge of the passage.

- 4 Read Matthew 9:1-8. What does Jesus say first, and what does he do second? Why that order?
- 5 Verse 2 says Jesus saw their faith, plural. Whose faith moved Jesus here, and what does that tell you?
- 6 Jesus asks: which is easier to say, your sins are forgiven, or get up and walk? Why does that question corner the teachers of the law?
- 7 Verse 8 tells us what the crowd concluded. Read it. Is that what you would have expected them to say?

## Bringing it home

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The last question in this section can go deep quickly. It is fine to leave it short.

- 8 Four men carried someone who could not get there himself. Who has carried you like that, or who might you be carrying right now?
- 9 Forgiveness lifts a weight that is both eternal and personal, guilt and shame included. Which of those two is easier for you to believe has been dealt with?
- 10 Pastor Matt asked whether there is a percentage of your life you are still withholding from God. What makes a person hold a percentage back?
- 11 If God did the thing you have been asking for, what would you want the follow-up to look like? OPTIONAL

## The group together

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Aim at what this group would actually notice, not what a group should say.

- 12 Pastor Matt said he has watched God clearly do something in a person's life with no follow-up afterward. What helps a follow-up actually happen?
- 13 How would this group want to respond if someone here asked for prayer for physical healing and it did not come?
- 14 What is one thing this group could carry for someone the way those four men did?

### BEFORE YOU FINISH

What is the harder thing you would want said over you, and what would change if you believed it had already been said?

## You might pray about

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- For the forgiveness that is already offered and not yet felt
- For those in this group waiting on a physical answer
- For the follow-up after something God has already done
- For whatever part of a life is still being kept back

