

Matthew 9 Study Guide

This chapter continues the idea of the last chapter. It is showing the reader what it is that Jesus has authority to do.

READ. In verse 1 -8 Matthew includes a story that shows that Jesus' authority was not merely over sickness. What is the thing Jesus has authority to do in these verses?

Why did that cause the experts in the Law to react as they did?

This story implies something about who Jesus really was. What is that?

In verses 9 – 13 we read about the calling of Matthew. It would be easy to simply read this as a report of what Jesus did. But it also demonstrates Jesus' authority. What does Jesus have authority to do according to these verses?

THINK. Calling someone to be a disciple or a Christian is a little different from speaking a word and healing someone. It requires a response from the one who is called. Based on what you know about Matthew in these verses, what reasons would Matthew have for NOT following Jesus?

What reasons would Matthew have for following Jesus? _____

APPLY. Everyone who follows Jesus has her or his own reasons for not following and her or his own reasons for following. What are some of the reasons people give for not following Jesus?

If you are a follower of Jesus, what was the reason you became a follower? _____

If you are not a follower, what are the reasons you have for not following?

READ. Sometimes the reasons people have for not following Jesus are serious. The next passage in verses 14 – 17 describe people who were thinking of being followers, but they had one problem. What was it? Think beyond the simple question they asked to the reason they asked the question.

There is one final example of Jesus authority in the final story in this chapter. What is this final thing that Jesus demonstrates his authority over?

Why would this be the most dramatic and convincing example of his authority?

APPLY. Is there something you need Jesus to take authority over in your life. If there is, write a personal prayer asking him to do that.
