



The King's Road: The Revelation of the King

Re: GROUP

The King's Road: Recognizing Jesus' Authority (Part 2)

Matthew 9:1-13

1. Observing the Text

- What stands out to you about the way Jesus responds to the paralytic before He heals him? Why do you think forgiveness comes before physical healing in this story?
- What do we learn about Jesus from the reactions of the scribes, the crowds, and Matthew?

2. Understanding the Meaning

- Why was Jesus' claim to forgive sins so offensive to the religious leaders? What does this reveal about who Jesus claims to be?
- How does Jesus' call of Matthew challenge common assumptions about who is "worthy" to follow Him?

3. Applying the Passage

- Who has been most influential in helping carry you toward Jesus in your faith journey? In what ways can you be that kind of friend to others?
- Are there people you find it difficult to show mercy toward—people you might unconsciously keep at a distance? What would it look like to follow Jesus' example with them this week?
- Which is harder for you personally: believing that Jesus truly forgives your sin, or extending that same mercy to others? Why?

Closing Prayer Prompt

Ask God to deepen your trust in Jesus' authority to forgive, to shape your heart with mercy rather than judgment, and to help you become someone who brings others to Christ rather than standing in the way.