

---

## A Powerful Ministry

### I. Three Surprising Encounters (1-17)

*A paralytic & friends...*

*A tax-collector...*

*A question on fasting...*

Jesus' mission was to address spiritual needs.

### II. Four Healing Encounters (18-35)

*A synagogue official...*

*A hemorrhaging woman...*

*A pair of blind men...*

*A demon-possessed mute man...*

*A ministry summary...*

Jesus' method was to address needs with teaching, proclaiming the gospel, and healing.

### III. One Passion Exposed (36-38)

*A ministry motivation...*

*A ministry need...*

Jesus' motivation was compassion.

Jesus' ministry is powerful, am I in it?

Application Questions - *These questions are provided for your further study and application of the subject of today's message. Thoughtfully writing out answers to these questions will help drive home the point. They are designed to be discussed in your home, with other believers, and in a Life Group, for even more benefit.*

1. What was Jesus' concern for the paralytic in Matthew 9:2-8?

What was His concern for the tax-collector in verses 9-13?

What is His concern for John's disciples in verses 14-17?

Does Jesus have the same concerns for you today? What would be the greatest need for His work in your life today? Why?

2. What did Jesus show He had power over in Matthew 9:18-33?

What is your greatest fear/struggle right now? Do you believe Jesus has the power to help you? Are you experiencing His help? Explain.

3. What three aspects of Jesus' ministry are noted in Matthew 9:35?

Are any, or all, of these aspects of Jesus' ministry active in your life? What does, or would, it look like?

4. What motivation of Jesus is seen in Matthew 9:36? Does He have the same feeling toward you? How do you know?

5. Israel's shepherds were failing in Jesus' day. What's necessary for good shepherding to take place?

Where do "workers" (verses 37-38) fit in this picture?

6. As Jesus meets the needs of people, He finds Himself under the scrutiny and criticism of the religious leaders. See Matthew 9:3, 11, 14, 34. Have you experienced criticism for ministering to the needs of others? What can you learn from this passage about ministry, and about criticism?

7. What is the main application of this study, and/or the sermon and its passages, for you?