Junior Sunday School Outline Book- Matthew Chapter- Matthew 9 Scripture- Matthew 9:35-38

Memory verse- Psalm 23:1, "The Lord is my Shepherd; I shall not want."

INTRODUCTION- Today, in this chapter, the Gospel of Matthew continues to present Jesus as the rightful King of the Jews. In the previous chapter, the multitudes began to see the amazing power that King Jesus has over sickness, nature, and devils. Of course, the Creator of all things must also have power over everything that He has created, even when sin has corrupted His creation. With this chapter, Christ is proven to the Jews that He is the all-powerful King as His power is further displayed before them through His amazing miracles.

I. THE KING'S POWER TO FORGIVE SIN AND BEFRIEND SINNERS (v.1-17)

- A. King Jesus heals a man of the palsy and forgives him of his sins (v.1-8)- As Jesus returned from the country of the Gadarenes across the Sea of Galilee, He traveled to the town of Capernaum. Capernaum is referred to as "His Own city" (v.1) since He made it His home-base. Great crowds of people gathered to see Jesus there in a house. Four men attempted to carry a palsied man to Jesus, but could not enter the house due to the multitude. However, this did not stop them, for they tore off the roof and lowered the man down to Jesus through the ceiling! Jesus saw the faith of the palsied man and his four friends, and told him "thy sins be forgiven thee". When Jesus spoke these words, certain "scribes" (copiers of the law) began to accuse Him of blasphemy, but only in their hearts. But, Jesus can read the deepest secrets of men (Matthew 12:25). BLASPHEMY- "words or actions committed showing irreverence to God or sacred things". But, Jesus knows the deepest secrets in the hearts of men, asked them why they would think "evil" of Him in their hearts. Can you imagine if while you were thinking a bad thought someone asked you why you were thinking it? Imagine if your parents, teachers, or friends could read your mind-what would they think of you? Jesus was showing these people that He had power on earth to forgive sins and to heal the physical ailments which sin caused.
- B. King Jesus calls Matthew to follow Him and eats with sinners (9-17)- Matthew had only recently believed that Jesus was the true Messiah, but when Jesus said "Follow Me", he willingly let his occupation to obey the Lord's call. When our eyes are fixed upon the Saviour, we will also be tender to Christ's leading. After surrendering to follow Jesus, Matthew gathered all of his "publican" friends to have dinner with Jesus. PUBLICANS- "those who collected taxes for Rome". Publicans were hated by the Jews and looked upon as traitors to their country. Many publicans would steal or over-tax people so they could line their pockets with money. But, no matter how sinful they were, Jesus was still willing to save them.

Jesus was then criticized by the Pharisees and called "a glutton and a winebibber". They were saying that if He did not refrain from eating or drinking at times by "fasting" that He was not keeping the law of Moses. Jesus illustrates to these men using two parables that He had not come to earth to "patch" up the Law, nor to put the "new wine" of the Gospel into "old bottles" of the Law. BOTTLES-"goatskin bags sown together to hold liquid". Jesus came to earth to fulfill the Law and establish a new covenant.

III. THE KING'S POWER TO RESTORE LIFE AND MEET NEEDS (v.18-38)

A. King Jesus journeys to heal a certain ruler's daughter (v.18-19)- This "ruler's " name was "Jairus" (Mark 5:22; Luke 8:41), and he was an officer of the Jewish synagogue at Capernaum, which meant that he was a very important person in that community. His little girl was only twelve years old and lay sick on her bed at the point of death. Jesus tells him that He will go to her, but as they were walking, the crowds pressed together to see Jesus. A certain woman in the crowd, who had a bloody disease for many years, believed that if she could but touch the hem of Christ's garment she would be healed. When this woman touched His garment, Jesus stopped immediately and asked "who touched Me?". This woman came trembling out of the crowd and fell down before Him at His feet . Jesus comforts her by telling her that "her faith hath made her whole". While Jesus talked with the woman who had a blood issue, the servants of Jairus informed him that his daughter was dead. Certainly, he must have thought "there's now no need for Jesus—it's just too late!" Oh, but the Lord is always on time, for He took the little girl's lifeless hand into His life-giving hand and she arose!

B. King Jesus meets the needs of two blind men, a demon-possessed man, and sees the greatest need of the people (v.27-38)- The blind men called Jesus "thou Son of David", which means that they believed that Jesus was the Messiah, Who would one day sit upon the throne of David as their rightful King. Then, a demonpossessed man who could not speak was brought to Jesus. But, demons are no match for King Jesus, and the devils are cast out and the man's tongue loosed. Finally, as Jesus went about healing, teaching, and preaching everywhere, He was moved with compassion upon the multitudes. He saw that their great need was to have a "Shepherd" to guide them. Jesus then turns to His disciples and instructs them to pray for more labourers to be sent into the harvest of men's souls. Even today, to greatest need is still more labourers.

III. CONCLUSION

- 1. If the Lord is to be your Shepherd, you must first become one of His sheep.
- 2. In order to become a "sheep", you must be born-again and made a new creature.
- 3. Every lamb knows Who their Shepherd is, but how sad it is for a little lamb of the Lord's to be outside the sheepfold and away from the Shepherd.
- 4. Be very careful to never try to become something else than Christ made you to be.
- 5. Song, "I just want to be a sheep, ba-ba-ba"