

## JOIN US FOR...

December  
**20**  
time tbd

**THE HOBBIT: THE BATTLE OF FIVE ARMIES**  
Take in a movie with your Element Community! Join us this Saturday at the Santa Maria 14 RPX Theater, at the showing that starts closest to 1pm! Check our website or FB for the exact time as it gets published!

December  
**21**

**COOKIES, COOKIES, COOKIES!**  
Bring back your bags filled with yummy, delicious cookies for a cookie celebration after service! All left over cookies will be given to people working on Christmas Day!

December  
**24**

**CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES**  
Three services to choose from: 7, 9 & 11pm. Childcare ages 0-4 will only be available at the 7pm.

## CONNECT ON OUR WIFI

Network: Element Guest  
Password: welcometoelement

## THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

*Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us (we must be out of this one by December 2016).*

*There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot we may hand out popsicles too help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15am service. Please understand that all of these "challenges" are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate you can visit [www.elementroots.org](http://www.elementroots.org). - The Element Team*

*Matthew 7:28-29*

# SERMON ON THE MOUNT

## *44. Astonished Authority*

### TODAY'S VERSES:

*Matthew 7: 28-29  
Matthew 5:3  
Mathew 5:21, 27, 33, 38  
John 8: 54-59*

*John 7: 45-49  
1 Corinthians 8:1  
John 14:27  
Matthew 8:1-9:38*

*John 11:4  
John 7:49  
Matthew 7:24  
Matthew 8: 2-3*

### MY NOTES:

## MATTHEW 7:28-29

And when Jesus finished these sayings, the crowds were astonished at his teaching, for he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not as their scribes.

Who is the best teacher you know/ had? (Don't say Jesus, even though He is.)

What about their teaching resonated with you?

Jesus is hands down the greatest teacher who has ever walked the Earth (granted it is somewhat cheating since He is God). Every time Jesus spoke, he literally blew everyone's minds! When Jesus speaks, He speaks with power and authority. We learn in the scriptures that Jesus' authority was not just found in words, but how His words effected reality.

Aaron broke the ending of the Sermon on the Mount into 4 sections:

### 1. *These sayings:*

These "sayings" are the words of Jesus sermon. They could be taken in individual pieces to meditate on, or they can be taken as a whole. The sayings have charted a course through blessings, being salt and light, true worship, anger, lust, oaths, loving your enemies, living in a way that doesn't need to be noticed, the Fatherhood of God, true generosity, and entrusting ourselves and others into God's hands.

What "sayings" throughout the series resonated with you?

How have you/can you/will you put these into practice?

### 2. *Astonished:*

Matthew is pointing out that the people who heard Jesus speak were struck with amazement, they were astonished. Being amazed at Jesus teaching is a common occurrence throughout the scriptures. What we see is that the goal of studying scripture is not out quoting each other or seeing how much we can know bible trivia, it is so we Glorify God, love our neighbor, and serve people. Anytime our studies no longer have love of God in mind, we miss the point and it becomes idolatry.

How has your study of Jesus ended up missing the point of Jesus' words?

### 3. *Authority:*

Matthew, after the sermon, continues on for two chapters to display Jesus' authority.

- Matt 8:1-4 Shows Jesus' authority over leprosy
- Matt 8:5-13 Shows Jesus' authority over paralysis
- Matt 8:14-17 shows Jesus' authority over sickness
- Matt 8:18-22 Shows Jesus' authority to call disciples
- Matt 8:23-27 Shows Jesus' authority over nature
- Matt 8:28-34 Shows Jesus' authority over demons
- Matt 9:1-8 Shows Jesus' authority over forgiveness of sins
- Matt 9:9-13 Shows Jesus' authority over scriptures meaning
- Matt 9:14-17 Shows Jesus' authority over LAW
- Matt 9:18-26 Shows Jesus' authority over death and life
- Matt 9:22 Shows Jesus' authority over clean and unclean
- Matt 9:27-31 shows Jesus' authority over blindness
- Matt 9:32-34 Shows Jesus' power over spiritual forces
- Matt 9:35-38 Shows Jesus' authority geared toward His peoples wholeness.

How has Jesus displayed His authority in your life?

Humans have a difficult time with accepting authority, we like to believe we are in control and get to determine what is right and wrong for ourselves.

What are some things that cause you to doubt (or not want) Jesus' authority in your life?

### 4. *Not as their scribes:*

Jesus spoke from a deep place of compassion, He welcomed and played with children, He touched those with disease and leprosy. The Sermon on the Mount is full of simple instinct for loving God and people. Behind Jesus words stand an ETERNITY of GRACE and TRUTH.

How important do you see the idea of spreading the words of Jesus?

How can you do that in a practical way?

The hard work of the Sermon on the Mount begins now because we are done with the series, but the series is not done with us.