

# UPCOMING EVENTS

WEEK 7

MATTHEW 9:1-8

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION MEETING

**If you have committed to Planting Roots or are a member of Element, we invite you to an important meeting in the upstairs youth room immediately following this service.**

## GOSPEL CLASS

**Begin TODAY during the 9:30am service in the upstairs classroom.**

8 week class that goes through basic Doctrine in Christianity & what Element believes specifically.

## BAPTISMS

**Are you interested in getting baptized?**

We are scheduling our next baptisms and would like to know who is interested, if you would like more information or are ready to be baptized, email [connect@ourelement.org](mailto:connect@ourelement.org) or sign up at welcome center.

## 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.

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 to 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 8:15 am 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

# AUTHORITY OVER SINS

## TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Matthew 9:1-8

Hebrews 9:22

Mark 2:1-3, 5

1 Corinthians 1:18

Genesis 3:15

February 19, 2017

[www.ourelement.org](http://www.ourelement.org)

# AUTHORITY

## OVER SINS

Saying Jesus has authority is more practical than catch phrases or platitudes; it will directly relate to how we interact with others in the world around us. Jesus lived and taught in a way that amazed those around Him because of His authority; He taught in a way that was different than their normal teachers. So far we have seen Jesus prove His authority by healing sickness, calling disciples, calming nature, and casting out demons. Today we are going to see that Jesus has authority over the forgiveness of sins, something only God could do.

This passage is about two things—one is about community and caring for those who are suffering, and the second is about Jesus' forgiveness of our sins.

**Who do you show your weakness and struggles to?**

**Who you ask to pray for you?**

**Who do you let see your brokenness?**

**Who helps you understand Hope?**

The paralytic in this story was cared for by a community. He could not hide his brokenness as it was apparent to all. Rather than running from this man's brokenness, the community was moved to come together and assist him at his most vulnerable point. Being this vulnerable would be nearly impossible for most people, because we are prideful and we like to try and do everything on our own. Doing everything on our own is antithetical to the gospel. We are all broken in one way or another and being vulnerable in community is one way we can experience an aspect of healing.

**Fill in the blank: If only I had \_\_\_\_\_ (or, if only \_\_\_\_\_ would happen), then I would be happy?**

The paralytic in the story most likely wanted to be able to walk again. He most likely was thinking, "If only I could walk, then I would be happy." The man, like most of us, probably believed his life would be complete

## WEEK 7 SERMON NOTES

when he had the thing he most wanted. This experiment is something that we do daily; we request something or seek after someone and believe that it/they will offer fulfillment or satisfaction, but true satisfaction comes from something deeper. It comes from being made right with God.

**If you had to say out loud the biggest problem in your life right now, what would it be?**

**How hard is it to say that out loud (how many didn't)?**

If you answered anything other than your sin, you are misunderstanding your greatest need. We tend to believe that all of the problems in our lives – financial, relational, or in the case of the text this week, disabilities – are our main problem, but in reality the problem is. Oftentimes, we want to use Jesus for healing or fixing a problem, but Jesus knows what we really need. He knows we need to have our sins forgiven so we can be made right with God.

**When are the times you feel furthest from God?**

**When are the times you feel closest?**

**What do you do when you are lacking faith?**

We are told in the scriptures that faith is a gift. Since it is a gift that means it is not contingent on what we do. We cannot gain more "faith" by practice, we can only learn to trust Jesus more by obedience to His call. We need to stop looking to ourselves to try and muster up more faith, instead we need to go to Jesus and say, "Lord, help me with my unbelief."

**What is your sin?**

**Would you be willing to ask God for forgiveness with your gospel community group?**

When we speak of the cross, it should be with a sense of wonder that God came to rescue us from our own sin and folly. What is your greatest wish? Is it everything would always go smoothly? Or do you want your life to be new? Do you want your future to be redeemed, and do you want your past to no longer have a hold over your entire life? That is what Jesus' authority does in our lives.