

UPCOMING EVENTS

WEEK 10

MATTHEW 9:18-26

CONNECT PARTY

Dessert Party Friday, March 31st at 6pm

Join us for a casual evening with the leadership of Element. Come meet and connect with others. We will provide the desserts.

All are welcome, whether you are new to Element or have been coming for a while.

RSVP at connect@ourelement.org

BAPTISM INFORMATION MEETING

Come learn more about the what and why of baptism.

Brief meeting NEXT SUNDAY, following each service.

eKids! Baptism Class: April 9th at 11am.

EKIDS! BODY SHOP & DRIVE-IN MOVIE NIGHT

The Body Shop from 6:30-8:30pm this Friday.

Drive-in movie March 24th at 6pm.

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.

- The Element Team

AUTHORITY OVER RESTORATION

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE

Luke 8:44-45
Matthew 9:18-26

Numbers 15:37-40
Malachi 4:2
Matthew 14:35-36

Luke 8:45
James 5:13-14

March 12, 2017

www.ourelement.org

AUTHORITY

OVER RESTORATION

WEEK 10 SERMON NOTES

We are in a series on Jesus' Authority. The idea of Jesus' authority comes directly out of the Sermon on the Mount where the people were amazed at the authority with which Jesus taught. Jesus, in Matthew 8-9, goes on to prove that He has the right to say and teach what He teaches by proving His authority in 14 different ways.

How would you define the word "faith?"

Do you think you would have defined it differently when you were a little kid? If so, how?

Today, in part, we will look at the question of Jesus' seeming confusion over who touched Him during a healing and what it really means, but we will also examine His authority over what makes a person clean and unclean. We will look at how Jesus intends to restore people into community because the community around us matters.

Why do you think community matters to Jesus?

There are three important aspects about faith that must be realized:

- Our faith is only as valuable as the object of our faith.
- Our faith is imperfect.
- God loves and heals despite our imperfections.

Read Matt 9:18-26

Which part of the story speaks to you the most? Why?

For thousands of years Torah observant Jews have worn prayer shawls onto which they attach tassels. When they pray they wrap these tassels around their fingers to remind them that God is a tactile God who understands touch. God knows we need reminders. Part of the idea of the tassels is that when we are feeling seduced, or we find ourselves putting our desires above

God's, there would be a tactile thing to remind us that God's way is the right way, the better way. The tassels were meant to be a physical reminder of God's grace.

Are there any tactile things you have that remind you of God's grace?

If so what are they and how do they remind you?

If a Rabbi said, "*Go in peace,*" to someone it was meant to have deep reaching implications. For Jesus to say it when He heals someone would mean more than physical healing, it would be about the peace of God being re-centered in their life. Jesus would have used the word "Shalom" when speaking of God's peace. Shalom in this context would mean overall health and wellness (physically), but also harmony with God (spirit, soul, and body). It would be a reminder to cast your worries, fears, joys, hopes, laughter, pain, love, and anger...essentially your whole being...onto your relationship to God.

Have you ever experienced a time when your mind wasn't racing and all of your anxieties were gone?

When was the last time you experienced being in the right place at the right time?

Many times Jesus does not heal physically because He knows that our wounds are deeper than physical; our need is also spiritual. Jesus says to the woman, "You go in shalom," meaning not just the physical healing, but the spiritual healing of God. This same healing is what Jesus wants to bring to us today through the authority of the cross and resurrection.

Is there a part of your life that you want Jesus to heal today?

How could He use you in your current struggle to help others as well?

Part of understanding the Gospel is knowing that Jesus didn't just heal back then, He also heals our souls now, today.