

# The Willing Christ

Matthew 8:1-4  
Small Group Questions  
WEEK OF JUNE 21-27, 2026

- (1) Read Matthew 8:1-4.
  - (a) What is the setting of these verses in relation to what has happened in Matthew 5-7?
  - (b) How does verse 1 connect with and continue the story of Matthew 4:23-25?
- (2) Read Leviticus 13:44-46 and Numbers 5:1-4. In light of these passages, in Matthew 8, what would the leper's life be like, physically, relationally, societally, and spiritually?
- (3) Read the parallel accounts in Mark 1:40-45 and Luke 5:12-16. What details do we glean from these parallel accounts that Matthew leaves out? How do they enrich our understanding of what is happening in Matthew? Why would Matthew leave some of those details out?
- (4) What is radical about both what the leper does and how Jesus responds?
  - (a) What ought we seek to emulate here as we live out our faith?
  - (b) Do you ever find yourself deterred from singular focus on Christ because of the fear of man?
- (5) How do Jesus' ability, authority, and compassion toward the leper speak to the struggles we face in life? How ought we to live in light of these realities? (Get specific!)
- (6) Jesus tells the man to go and do what Moses says for lepers to do when they're cleansed, "as a testimony to them" (v 4). What all might go into this "testimony?" How is this significant to the Jews who had to square with Jesus' ministry?
- (7) How is Jesus' willingness to cleanse a leper an enticement to come to Him with that which is far worse than leprosy (namely, what leprosy symbolizes)? Ephesians 5:25-26, Hebrews 9:13-14, 2 Corinthians 7:1?
- (8) How do 1 Peter 5:6-7 and Revelation 5:8-14 serve as appropriate applications of this passage?