



**Sermon Notes: "More than a Miracle"**

*Matthew 8:14-17*

9.21.25

**THE HEALER WHO CARRIES OUR PAIN:**

**1. Jesus cares about ordinary suffering.**

- Jesus didn't just heal the spectacular cases.

**2. The deepest healing – sin**

- Unlike physical healing, which God gives according to His wisdom and timing, spiritual healing is promised to everyone who believes.

**3. Jesus doesn't just fix - He absorbs.**

- Matthew is saying Jesus didn't just wave His hand and make problems disappear. He absorbed our sickness into Himself.

**4. The purpose of healing is to create servants, not consumers.**

**A PASTORAL WORD ABOUT UNANSWERED PRAYERS:**

- Your faith isn't weak.
- Your prayers aren't unheard.
- Your pain isn't wasted.

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**So What?**

Jesus is the Healer who doesn't just make us well - He makes us whole.

If Jesus has touched your life, are you using that healing to serve others?

**ICEBREAKER:** *Share about a time when someone helped you in a way that went beyond just solving your problem - they actually seemed to carry your burden with you. What made their help different from typical help?*

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**For Study, Reflection, Discussion:**

1. Review the sermon notes from Sunday. Was there a particular point that stuck with you? *What* was it and *why* did it resonate with you?

**READ: Matthew 8:14-17 and Isaiah 53:1-6**

**2. (Matthew 8:14)** Peter's mother-in-law had "just" a fever, but in that time period this was potentially deadly. Why do you think Jesus cared about this "ordinary" suffering when he could have been doing more spectacular miracles? What does this teach us about what matters to God? (*See also Matthew 11:28-30, Psalm 34:18*)

**3. (Isaiah 53:4-6)** Darin explained that the Hebrew words for "carried" and "bore" mean Jesus literally absorbed our pain into himself, not just sympathized with it. How does this change your understanding of what Jesus did on the cross? What's the difference between someone who helps you and someone who carries your burden?

**4. (Matthew 8:15)** Peter's mother-in-law immediately got up and served after being healed. Darin said, "The purpose of healing is to create servants, not consumers." What do you think he meant by this? Can you think of examples where someone's healing (physical, emotional, or spiritual) led them to serve others? (*See also 2 Corinthians 1:3-4, Galatians 6:2*)

**5.** The sermon addressed the reality that not everyone receives physical healing in this life. How do you wrestle with God's promises about healing while also accepting that some prayers seem unanswered? What comfort do you find in knowing that spiritual healing is available to everyone.

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**DEPLOY:**

- **Notice the "small" pain** - Jesus cared about a fever when he could have been doing spectacular miracles. This week, pay attention to the "ordinary" suffering around you and find one practical way to bring comfort.

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**DON'T FORGET:**

- **Women's Night Out – Thursday, Sept 25<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm**
- Operation Christmas Child – Donations and Shoebox Packing Parties.
- All Church F.U.N. Night Pumpkin Carving and Chili Contest!
- Keep praying for our community as we seek to be healers in a hurting world

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**PRAYER:**

Jesus, thank you that no pain is too small for Your attention and no person is too far from Your healing touch.

For those still waiting for physical healing, remind them that their faith isn't weak, their prayers aren't unheard, and their pain isn't wasted. Help them trust Your wisdom and timing.

For those You've healed spiritually, emotionally, or physically, help us remember that healing isn't just for us - it's meant to overflow to others. Make us servants, not consumers of Your grace.

In the name of the Suffering Servant who became our Healer. Amen.