



Sermon Notes: “Audacious Faith”

Matthew 9:18-25

11.9.25

1. Audacious faith emerges when desperation meets kingdom power.

2. Audacious faith in Jesus receives more than the miracle.

3. Audacious faith in Jesus surrenders the outcome.

- Delays aren't denials.
- Faith is the posture, not the lever.

So What?

Proximity Matters: Are you close to Jesus, or just watching from the crowd?

Boldness in Desperation: Are you truly that hungry, or are you just looking for a quick fix?

Belief: Do you trust that Jesus responds to audacious faith?

Commented [LM1]: Seems like it needs the word, “that” (do you agree?): Do you trust that Jesus responds to audacious faith?

Commented [GU2R1]: Yes

For Study, Reflection, Discussion During the Week:

Life Group ICEBREAKER: *Think about a time when you were desperate enough to do something that normally would have embarrassed you or made you uncomfortable (asking for help, admitting you were wrong, taking a big risk). What made you willing to set aside your pride or fear in that moment?*

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 9:18-26

2. (verse 18) Darin pointed out that Jairus was a synagogue leader—part of the "old rigid religious structure" Jesus had just warned about. Yet Jairus came to Jesus with audacious faith. What does this teach us about staying humble and flexible in our faith, even when we have religious knowledge or position? (See also Matthew 9:14-17 from last week)
3. (verses 18-19) Jairus made an audacious request: He didn't ask tentatively—he asked with bold confidence. What's the difference between audacious faith and presumptuous demands? How do we know when we're approaching God boldly versus trying to manipulate Him? (See also Hebrews 4:16)
4. (verse 22) Jesus called the bleeding woman "Daughter"—the only time in the Gospels He uses this term for someone. Darin said, "For 12 years, she'd been defined by her condition. In one word, Jesus redefined her by relationship." How does faith in Jesus give us a new identity beyond our circumstances, our past, or what others say about us? (See also Romans 8:15, Galatians 3:26)
5. Darin addressed the tension: "If I just have enough faith, will God heal my loved one? Fix my marriage? Solve my problem?" He clarified that faith isn't a formula—God always responds to faith, but His answer is according to His wisdom, not our wishes. How do you hold the tension between: *Coming to Jesus boldly with audacious requests AND trusting Him when His answer is "wait," "no," or "I have something better"*? Has there been a time when God answered your prayer differently than you asked, and you later saw it was better?

Deploy: This week, practice coming to Jesus with audacious faith by taking these three steps:

1. GET CLOSE: Spend intentional time in prayer this week—not rushed, not distracted, but pressing close to Jesus.
2. GET DESPERATE: Identify your "12-year" issue and bring it audaciously to Jesus.
3. SURRENDER THE OUTCOME: Practice "posture" faith, not "lever" faith.

Don't Forget:

- **Final Operation Christmas Child Shoebox Packing Party – Today at 2 pm!**
- **Decorating Church for Christmas – New date: Sat, Nov 29th, 10 am – 2 pm**
Lunch provided for helpers.
- **Potluck after service – November 30th**

Prayer:

Jesus, thank You that audacious faith gets Your attention.

Help us stop watching from the crowd and press in close to You. Give us the courage to bring our impossible requests and trust Your heart, even when Your answer is different than we expect.

For those carrying long burdens—remind them: It's not too late. We're pressing in. We're asking boldly. We're trusting completely.

In Jesus' name, Amen.