



**Jesus Fully Displays Divine Authority through Physical and Spiritual Healing
Luke 5:12-26**

Jesus continues to reveal his authority through the healing of a leper. (vv. 5:12-14)

1. An "untouchable" approaches Jesus for healing in humble desperation.
Luke 5:12 While he was in one of the cities, there came a man full of leprosy. And when he saw Jesus, he fell on his face and begged him, "Lord, if you will, you can make me clean."
2. Jesus fulfills the OT ceremonial law in healing the leper.
Luke 5:13 And Jesus stretched out his hand and touched him, saying, "I will; be clean." And immediately the leprosy left him.
3. Jesus directs the man to follow ceremonial law, re-enter society, and testify to God's favor.
Luke 5:14 And he charged him to tell no one, but "go and show yourself to the priest, and make an offering for your cleansing, as Moses commanded, for a proof to them."

Jesus prioritizes communion with his Father as his fame and influence spreads. (vv. 5:15-16)

Luke 5:15 But now even more the report about him went abroad, and great crowds gathered to hear him and to be healed of their infirmities. **16** But he would withdraw to desolate places and pray.

Jesus proves his authority to forgive through an act of miraculous healing. (vv. 5:17-26)

1. News of the healing and teaching ministry of Jesus reaches the religious leaders who come to investigate.
Luke 5:17 On one of those days, as he was teaching, Pharisees and teachers of the law were sitting there, who had come from every village of Galilee and Judea and from Jerusalem. And the power of the Lord was with him to heal.
2. Jesus provides the grandest of healings in response to a community's faith.
Luke 5:18 And behold, some men were bringing on a bed a man who was paralyzed, and they were seeking to bring him in and lay him before Jesus, **19** but finding no way to bring him in, because of the crowd, they went up on the roof and let him down with his bed through the tiles into the midst before Jesus. **20** And when he saw their faith, he said, "Man, your sins are forgiven you."

The Beauty of Forgiveness

- Forgiveness has always been on the basis of faith in the finished work of Jesus. (Ephesians 1:7)
- The OT faithful (and those who encountered Jesus during his life) received forgiveness in anticipation of the cross. (Romans 3:25)
- Forgiveness in Jesus is absolute and perfect. (1 John 2:12)

"Faith, in Luke, is attributed to those who act decisively on the basis of the conviction that God's help is to be found with Jesus and gratefully receive God's action through him" -WBC

3. Jesus proves his divine authority to forgive through a physical healing.

a. The religious leaders question Jesus' authority to forgive.

Luke 5:21 *And the scribes and the Pharisees began to question, saying, "Who is this who speaks blasphemies? Who can forgive sins but God alone?"*

b. As the Son of Man, Jesus proves his authority to forgive by healing the paralyzed man.

Luke 5:22 *When Jesus perceived their thoughts, he answered them, "Why do you question in your hearts? 23 Which is easier, to say, 'Your sins are forgiven you,' or to say, 'Rise and walk'? 24 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the man who was paralyzed—"I say to you, rise, pick up your bed and go home." 25 And immediately he rose up before them and picked up what he had been lying on and went home, glorifying God.*

c. The crowd marvels at Jesus' demonstration of authority.

Luke 5:26 *And amazement seized them all, and they glorified God and were filled with awe, saying, "We have seen extraordinary things today."*

Reflection & Discussion

1. In Luke 5:12-26 we see two accounts of genuine faith. In what ways does the faith of the leper and the paralyzed man (and his friends) act as a model for our own attitudes of humility, dependence, and trust? How does Jesus' response to them encourage us today?
2. When you put your faith in Jesus, all of your sin (past, present, and future) is nailed with him to the cross. How does this incredible truth influence your relationship with God in times of failure?

SONGS

"I AM SET FREE"

"STAND IN YOUR LOVE"

"GREAT ARE YOU LORD"

"CORNERSTONE"

Altamont Music Pastor: Shawn Hoelsch (shawn@vbc.online)

BUDGET

GIVING LAST WEEK: \$ 24,683.57

WEEKLY NEED: \$ 36,985.00

Y-T-D GIVING: \$ 231,816.83

Y-T-D GENERAL NEED: \$ 332,865.00

ALTAMONT CAMPUS EXPANSION FUND:

(Last Entry – 3/01) \$ 54,237.10

Note: Envelopes for financial gifts, prayer requests, & communication to our church leadership are in the seatback pockets. Please deposit the envelopes in the offering boxes by the exit doors. Thank you!