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# Matthew Chapter 8

## ☐ 1. Warm-up (5-10 min)

a. What is your favorite story of someone being healed in Bible times? Tell the story with as much detail as you can remember. Why is this story your favorite healing story?

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b. What is your favorite story of someone being healed in modern times? Tell the story with as much detail as you can remember. Why do you love this story?

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## ☐ 2. Engaging the Chapter (15-20 min)

In this chapter Matthew tells several stories of Jesus healing people, Jesus calming a huge storm, and then casting the demons out of two men. In the midst of all these miracles and excitement there is a short passage called, “The Cost of Following Jesus.” Here it seems that people are getting so excited about Jesus and all the cool stuff he can provide and all the amazing miracles He can perform that some people are thinking they would like to be a superstar too! They must have been something like rockstar groupies trying to get famous by association. So, Jesus sat down and told them how it really was. He told them that He was so committed to His mission that He was basically homeless and didn’t even visit His mom regularly. His overwhelmingly number one priority was carrying out the mission that His Father had sent Him on to save the people of planet earth.

Do you have a clear mission in life? What all does it entail?  
Do you wish you had a clearer mission in life? Why/why not?

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What kind of causes are you more drawn to? Things like missions, humanitarian organizations, military campaigns, sports teams or other forms of entertainment? Why do you think that is?

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If Jesus was walking planet earth today do you think you would be drawn to Him and want to follow Him—even if it meant being homeless? Why/why not?

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Do you think it would have been easier to live Jesus' lifestyle back then than it is now? Why/why not?

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 **3. Applying the Chapter to Your Life (5-10 min)**

Sit down with a small group and discuss what it would look like to follow Jesus today. What kind of lifestyle do you think He would live? Do you think He would be forced to own or rent a home in 21st century America? What kind of causes do you think Jesus would want you to be involved in and which ones do you think He would be involved in Himself? Discuss how you can adjust your lifestyle to fit in more with how Jesus would live if He was here today.

 **4. Prayer Time (3-5 min)**

Pray and ask Jesus to help you look at your lifestyle realistically and ask Him to show you how you should begin implementing some of those ideas in your life now.