

**Chardon Christian Fellowship**  
**Home Fellowship Lessons**  
**The Beatitudes**  
**Lesson 1: Authentication**

**LESSON**

**A. Who are we?**

Remember the 1956 Rogers and Hammerstein musical “*The King and I*” with Yul Brenner and Deborah Kerr? There was a great song in the musical, “*Getting to Know You*” sung by Deborah Kerr portraying Anna Leonowens (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Vlx6gQWfjpo> ). This exercise is a little bit of ‘*Getting to Know You*’.

**QUESTION:** “*You may be starting out ... or retired ... but what would you say is your ‘profession’ or ‘specialty’?*”

**QUESTION:** “*By what evidence do you qualify for that profession? In other words, how does someone know that you are that specific profession/specialty?*”

**B. Jesus Demonstrating His Authority**

Read ***Matthew 4:23-25***

**1. Where was Jesus teaching?**

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**QUESTON:** *Why teach in the synagogues?* \_\_\_\_\_

**a.** The synagogues were the local gathering place and the heart of local Jewish teaching, while Temple was the place for worship; at synagogue, priests, elders and local men were invited to read from the Torah and give reflection or interpretation; this was a historical passing of interpretation and knowledge.

**b.** Why is this important to state “*Jesus was .. teaching in the synagogues*“ in this passage? It shows that He was delivering The Message of the kingdom to the Jews.

## **2. Jesus brings His authority and message (The Kingdom of Heaven)**

Read **Matthew 4:23**

**QUESTION: “What is the ‘gospel of the kingdom’?”** \_\_\_\_\_

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The Greek word *euangelion* is translated *gospel* and simply means “good news”. The Greek word *basileia* is translated “kingdom”, which means “the realm in which a sovereign king rules.” In the New Testament, the mention of *kingdom of Heaven* refers to the rule of Christ in the hearts of believers, since, for the time being, Christ’s kingdom is not of this world (read **John 18:36**).

The ‘gospel of the kingdom’ is the good-news message of repentance, redemption, and restoration offered by God to all who will receive Christ. Those who accept this offer become part of His eternal kingdom (read **John 1:12-13**). This is why we are called ambassadors for Christ (read **2 Cor 5:20**) for Christians now represent the king as kingdom ambassadors.

An angel proclaimed something about the kingdom of Christ.

Read **Luke 1:30-33**

John the Baptist was the herald who proclaimed something.

Read **Matthew 3:2-6**

What did Jesus proclaim at the beginning of His ministry in Galilee?

Read **Matthew 4:17**

## **3. Jesus demonstrates His power as the Messiah**

The question is “How do we know Jesus is who He claimed to be? What would be the evidence when the Messiah came?” The answer is that He will do things that authenticate that He is the Messiah, the Deliverer of His people, and the Anointed One of God.

**QUESTION: How did Jesus demonstrate He was the Messiah?** \_\_\_\_\_

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Consider the fact that in the times of Jesus, there were no hospitals, no medicines, no emergency rooms, no immunizations, no cell phones, no ‘911’ .. there was essentially no medical help. No help for simple infections .. broken bones .. childhood diseases .. childbirth complications to mother and child .. no toilets .. no sanitized water .. no refrigerators .. simple wounds could lead to death from infection. Anything that was available was costly and only affordable to the wealthy .. not the ‘people’.

The 'people' had little hope. Any malady was permanent and disastrous.

Read **Matthew 4:23-25**

### **What did Jesus heal?**

He healed every kind of

Disease (*nosos*); a disease, sickness, distemper

Sickness (*malakia*); softness; listlessness, indisposition, weakness, infirmity of body

They brought to Him all who were

ill (*kakos*); badly ill, physically ill, sick, grievously or wretched ill, miserable

Those suffering various

Diseases (*nosos*); a disease, sickness, distemper

Pains (*basanos*); severe pain, torture, torment

Demoniacs (*daimonizomai*); to be possessed, afflicted, vexed, by a demon or evil spirit

Epileptics (*seleniazomai*); to be a lunatic (lunar madness)

Paralytiks (*paralytikos*); lame, palsied, paralytic

!!! Jesus demonstrates His authority .. His power .. His love of mankind .. His pity for man by:

- Healing those "... *taken with various diseases and pains ...*" – Jesus demonstrated His power over 'the human body' and organisms that infect it. Jesus is Lord over the human body.

- Healing the "... *demoniacs ...*" – Jesus demonstrated His power over spiritual realm and Satan by curing those who were possessed. Jesus is Lord over all things spiritual.

- Healing the "... *epileptics and paralytiks ...*" – Jesus demonstrated His power over the human body, but more specifically over the mind, and diseases of the mind including paralysis. These were incurable diseases in that day. Jesus is Lord over the incurable.

**Most profound statement:** "... *and He healed them.*" This is the most sobering and profound statement in these passages. This demonstrated the absolute power and authority that was given Jesus as the Messiah, and Anointed One of God. He had authority over man's body and mind, and over anything in the world that could affect man, including viruses and bacteria. He healed them!

#### **4. He fulfilled Prophecy**

Read the following prophecies about the Messiah:

*Isaiah 9:1,2* \_\_\_\_\_

*Isaiah 29:18* \_\_\_\_\_

*Isaiah 35:4-6* \_\_\_\_\_

*Malachi 4:2* \_\_\_\_\_

#### **5. The message gets out!**

Read **Matthew 4:23-25**

The word got out! The Messiah has come. He heals the sick and lame.

#### **C. CONCLUSION**

***Matthew 4:25, Matthew 5:1***

The reason the multitudes followed Him is He authenticated who He was. He was the Messiah, the Deliver, the Anointed One of God. He authenticated through the Power of God through healing. The people at the Sermon on the Mountain were at the 'kingdom of heaven'. God was present in the form of a man, and had displayed His power in the manner that most touched their hearts through destroying their greatest fears .. He healed them.

He healed them of their physical imperfections. Now ... in His Sermon on the Mount, He will show them the effect of healing their spiritual imperfections. They were about to be shown the consequences of coming in contact with the 'kingdom of heaven.'

#### **D. Challenge**

So our challenge this week is to: **(1)** read **Matthew 4:23** to **Matthew 5:1-20**; **(2)** recall the events where God has shown Himself strongly in your life (answered prayer, healing, etc.); **(3)** consider sharing with the group or a close Christian friend those times of the miraculous.

#### **Resources:**

New American Standard Bible, NASB, Lochmann Foundation

Mounce Reverse-Interlinear New Testament, William Mounce

Bible Knowledge Commentary, John F. Walvoord and Roy B. Zuck, Victor Books

[www.arabicbible.com](http://www.arabicbible.com)

[www.gotquestions.org](http://www.gotquestions.org)