

Sermon Document
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Matthew 9:27-33
The gift of faith

Hebrews 11:1 ESV

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen. and it's this kind of faith we will see today

Matthew 9:27-33 ESV

And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David." When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, "Do you believe that I am able to do this?" They said to him, "Yes, Lord." Then he touched their eyes, saying, "According to your faith be it done to you." And their eyes were opened. And Jesus sternly warned them, "See that no one knows about it." But they went away and spread his fame through all that district.

As they were going away, behold, a demon-oppressed man who was mute was brought to him. And when the demon had been cast out, the mute man spoke. And the crowds marveled, saying, "Never was anything like this seen in Israel."

Exodus 34:5-8 ESV

The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation." And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped.

1 Peter 1:3-9 ESV

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be

revealed in the last time. In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials, so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ. Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory, obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Hebrews 11:1 ESV

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen.

Small group questions

1. How does Hebrews 11:1 define faith?
2. How does Jesus' approach individuals in need of healing or help in the New Testament?
3. What do the blind men's cries for mercy tell us about their understanding of Jesus' character?
4. In what ways have you experienced God's mercy in your life? How has this changed your life?
5. How have you seen Jesus ask questions in your own life to help you understand more about the work he wants to do in you? (a good place to find these questions would be the bible)
6. How has your faith been strengthened during a time of hardship or suffering in your life?
7. How has your dependence on Jesus grown during a time of waiting for healing?
8. What evidence have you seen of Jesus working for your good and his glory?
9. One of the struggles all the people would have experienced before Jesus healed them was Isolation from community. How does their encounter with Jesus move them from Isolation into community? How does the value of sharing life together show up in encouraging Jesus. How has having faith in Jesus moved you from isolation to community?
10. In what ways do you need God to strengthen your faith at this time?

Spend some time as a group praying for one another.