



+ **YOU**

Spring 2024
It's All About Jesus

Sermon Title: Jesus Heals and Teaches Truth

To be used with Session 2: The Ministry of Jesus

The Point: Through His miracles and teaching, Jesus pointed us to a relationship with God.

Scripture: Matthew 12:9-28

Connection with the Study: To complement the Bible study “The Ministry of Jesus,” this sermon is built on the example of Jesus healing, casting out demons, and teaching why His miraculous works can only come from God alone. In this passage, we see that Jesus taught through example. He asked tough questions, and He spent his time ministering to those in need. His questions only led to one honest response - that Jesus truly is the Son of God. The ministry and teaching of Jesus always produced a range of emotions, from those who believed and desired to follow Him, to those who were threatened by Him and set out to destroy the good that He was accomplishing.

Introduction: Forty years ago, illusionist David Copperfield pulled off one of the largest magic tricks of all time by making the Statue of Liberty “disappear.” Of course, the statue never really moved; it was all just an illusion. We may not see falsehoods on this grand scale every day, but we don’t have to look far for things that are not true. Social media posts, highly edited news stories, gossip, and harsh words from people around us can distract from what is true. We often experience things that appear in the moment to be accurate, only to find that there is a trick, there is a catch, there is a lie behind all of it. The healings and teachings of Jesus were unique in that everything He said was fully true, and every miracle truly of God. In Jesus alone do we find healing and truth.

1. Jesus healed on the Sabbath (Matt. 12:9-14).

When Jesus walked the earth, it was well known that He was a healer. His reputation for physically caring for those in need had gone before Him, and here the Pharisees hoped to use that against Him. It is astonishing to think that there were those who would try to use the healing ministry of Jesus as a reason to accuse Him, but this was their aim. Would Jesus violate the law of not working on Sabbath by healing this man? If so, they would say He ignored the laws of God. If He did not, they would say He could not or did not care enough to. Jesus saw through their deceit and did what only Jesus can do – He restored the man’s withered hand “as good as the other.”

The ministry of Jesus is filled with examples of miraculous physical healing. In this way He

was showing Himself to be the Son of God, performing miracles as no one else could, and revealing that, as God, He has compassion for His children. The miracles of Jesus stand to this day as a testimony of who He is and how deeply He loves.

2. Jesus ministered to many followers (Matt. 12:15-21).

We never read about Jesus desperately looking around to find people to talk to; they were always drawn to Him. In this situation, He was making His way out because He knew the evil intentions of the Pharisees “that they might kill Him.” Yet the people knew they had seen a miracle performed, and they followed Him. After healing one person with a withered hand and knowing that some were contemplating killing Him for it, we might think that Jesus was done healing for the day. Yet we read here that He healed them all. Each and every person in need of physical healing from Jesus received it that day.

Yet Jesus was not seeking notoriety or fame because of it. Instead, He warned them not to go around talking about it, and He taught them how His ministry was fulfilling what the prophet Isaiah had written about Him. He taught with authority. He was humble. He did not argue. He proclaimed justice. Everyone who encountered Jesus went away knowing who He was. Jesus came not to be served, but to serve, and as His followers, this is the example we must also follow. When we humbly serve others as Jesus did, we will find true joy in that service.

3. The healing of Jesus was indisputable (Matt. 12:22-28).

Jesus didn’t only heal physically, He brought spiritual healing to those whose physical pain was caused by demons. When Jesus cast demons from a man who was “blind and unable to speak,” the immediate response from those who saw it was to ask whether this was the long-promised Messiah. There is only one who can heal us physically and emotionally and bring cleansing to the very core of who we are—and these people acknowledged it. Yet the Pharisees claimed that He was doing all this good in the name of one who only does evil, Beelzebul, which is another name for Satan.

Jesus called out their poor logic by leading them to the conclusion they did not want to hear: the kingdom of God had come, Jesus was the personification of that kingdom, and they themselves in their unbelief were fighting against it. James 1:17 tells us that every good and perfect gift comes from God. Throughout the ministry of Jesus, He was doing good. Everywhere He went, He brought peace, healing, and restoration. Those who opposed Him could only make false claims that did not stand up to reason.

Conclusion: Jesus continues to heal today, and His words continue to be the very truth of God. Just as He healed everyone who came to Him in this passage, He continues to bring healing to those who seek Him. He fully forgives our sin and fully heals our souls so that we may know and apply His truth to our lives. In Him, we are free to live a life that is honoring to God and overflows with the truth of Jesus. In a world that is set against the truth, where little lies and deception are all around us, the teaching of Jesus provides us a sure foundation that will never be shaken. Let us stand strong on that truth daily!

Author Bio

Jason Soroski is a pastor and teacher who holds degrees in Church Music and Education from Missouri Baptist University and is active in his local church. His best known writing is [Drop the Blanket: the Moment you Never Noticed in a Charlie Brown Christmas](#).