

# **MOOREBANK – HAMMONDVILLE ANGLICAN CHURCHES**

SERMON OUTLINE –5 February 2017

Matthew 8:23 – 9:17 ~ Responding to Jesus' authority

## **Fear**

### **1. Power over the creation – 8:23 - 27**

- Jesus of Nazareth does what only God can do: Job 38:8-11; Psalm 65:5-8; 89:8-9; 107

### **2. Power over the forces of evil – 8:28 - 34**

### **3. Power to forgive sin – 9:1-8**

- Our deepest need?

**What it can't mean - Jesus is like Aladdin's genie!**

**What it might mean –**

**What it must mean**

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### QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION OR REFLECTION

#### Matthew 8:23 – 9:17

Matthew has already given three pictures of authority: the healing of the leper (8:1-4); healing the Centurion's servant (8:5-13); healing Peter's Mother in law (8:14-15). Now he gives three more.

Jesus calms the storm – Matthew 8:23 - 27

1. When caught in real danger, the disciples call upon Jesus. What did they get right?
2. Why does Jesus call them people of little faith? Is Jesus hard on them? Or, is he pushing them to recognize something about himself? If so, what do you think it is?
3. How would you answer the disciples question in 8:27?

Jesus frees the demon possessed – Matthew 8:28 - 34

4. What clues does Matthew give in this story that these were powerful demons?
5. Jesus speaks a single word to the demons – what does this communicate about his authority over them? If Christ is within you by his Spirit, do you think the spiritually evil can harm you? Do you find this a reassuring story? Why / Why not?
6. Why do you think the people of the region beg Jesus to leave?

Jesus forgives sin - Matthew 9:1-8

7. Do you think people found Jesus words in v2 surprising? Why / Why not?
8. Why do the Scribes think Jesus is blaspheming (v3)? What do they have right? What do they have wrong?
9. How does Jesus demonstrate his authority to forgive sins?

Putting it together

10. How has Matthew revealed Jesus' authority? Is this how you typically think of Jesus? How did Matthew himself respond to Jesus authority (9:9)
11. Why do you think that Matthew is so concerned for us to grasp the authority and power of Jesus of Nazareth? What does the Bible want us to be clear on?