

Called to fly

Matthew 8

Jesus Heals Many

¹⁴ When Jesus came into Peter's house, he saw Peter's mother-in-law lying in bed with a fever. ¹⁵ He touched her hand and the fever left her, and she got up and began to wait on him.

¹⁶ When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. ¹⁷ This was to fulfil what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:

"He took up our infirmities
and bore our diseases."^[b]

The Cost of Following Jesus

¹⁸ When Jesus saw the crowd around him, he gave orders to cross to the other side of the lake. ¹⁹ Then a teacher of the law came to him and said, "Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go."

²⁰ Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and birds have nests, but the Son of Man has no place to lay his head."

²¹ Another disciple said to him, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

²² But Jesus told him, "Follow me, and let the dead bury their own dead."

- 1) V14-16 what is the series of events described here?
- 2) Why do you think Matthew tells us "with a word" Jesus casts out the spirit?
- 3) What does this show us about the nature of Jesus? How do you think the eye witnesses would have reacted to seeing this?
- 4) Matthew was writing mainly to a Jewish audience. Why is it important he included v17 in this story?
- 5) V18 why does Jesus often flee from crowd?
- 6) V19 who is it that comes to Jesus? Why is this significant?
- 7) V20 What does he mean by his response? Why answer the man this way?
- 8) V21-22 is Jesus being unfair to this man?
- 9) Why would he tell him no in this situation?
- 10) What are the obstacles that we have in our lives that stop up "following" Jesus?

1.