

**ENCOURAGING WORDS**

1 Timothy 4:6

## INTRODUCTION

- A. It is always good to be encouraged.
- B. It is good to be an encourager!
- C. The Bible is filled with words of encouragement.

## DISCUSSION

- I. "AT THY WORD" – LK 5:5.
  - A. Context – LK 5:1-11.
  - B. Why was Peter reluctant? Worked all night – caught nothing. Tired.Sleepy.
  - C. Jesus asked – Peter was willing to do as instructed.
- II. "JESUS SEEING THEIR FAITH" – MT 9:2.
  - A. Context – MT 9:1-8.
  - B. He saw their faith! What did they do? MK 2:3-5.
    - 1. They could have given up.
    - 2. They could have tried at a later time.
    - 3. OR, find an alternate way of accomplishing their purpose.
  - C. "Quitting" nor "waiting" were not words in their vocabularies.
  - D. It was not Jesus' mission to do miracles for miracles' sake. In this house Jesus desired to do more than perform a miracle. He wanted to teach something about Himself when He did it – that He is Deity. Only God can forgive sins – Jesus is God!
- III. "BUT SPEAK THE WORD ONLY" – MT 8:8.
  - A. Context – MT 8:5-13.
  - B. Attitude of the centurion was commendable. He knew his deficiencies. He was familiar with the Jewish custom – if Jesus came – Jesus would be unclean.
  - C. Centurion suggested a different course. The centurion did not have to be present for his commands to be carried out, and then neither did Jesus. Jesus authority was not limited by distance. CO 1:17. The centurion had "great faith". His faith is contrasted with the lack of faith in Israel. It wasn't the faith of their father- cf. RO 4. Jews wanted to establish their own faith – RO 10:3.
  - D. From this we learn that Jesus did not require faith in those whom he healed. God's response to true faith is blessing – GE 15:6.
- IV. "TOUCHED HIS GARMENT" – MK 5:27.
  - A. Context – MK 5:25-34; MT 9:20-22; LK 8:43-48.
  - B. Ceremonially she was unclean and so were all who touched her. She spent all her living for a cure but now impoverished and losing her physical strength. Just to touch the garment of Jesus. One garment was not as good as another. Another garment would have been of no value to her. This garment was connected to Jesus. She had no choice! She was healed by faith but not by faith only. She put her faith in action by coming and touching His garment. Cf. GA 5:6.
  - C. Observation: The woman was blessed only through the garment that was connected with Jesus – we receive the blessing of God only through those things connected with Jesus.

Salvation in His name – Acts 4:12; Saved through the gospel of Christ – RO 1:16-17;  
Saved when we are baptized into Christ – GA 3:27 [one baptism is not as good as  
another – Acts 19:1-7]; Saved in the church – MT 16:18; Acts 2:47; observe the Lord’s  
Supper – 1 CO 11:20-34; must keep our lives in touch with Jesus – GA 2:20; 5:1-4.

- V. “THE DAMSEL IS NOT DEAD” – MK 5:39.
- A. Context – MK 5:21-24, 35-43; MT 9:18-26; LK 8:41-56.
  - B. Many lessons can be learned from this miracle.
    - 1. Death is no respecter of person.
    - 2. Sickness and death produce very humbling effects upon those involved.
    - 3. Jesus has power over death.
    - 4. Jesus spoke of death as a sleep – LK 16:19-31 shows this is not an unconscious state; it is not an annihilation of the body much less the soul – 1 CO 15:42-58.
  - C. We too will be called when he comes again and we will arise. 1 TH 4:13-18.
- VI. “IT IS I; BE NOT AFRAID” – MK 6:50.
- A. Context – MK 6:45-56
  - B. Words of reassurance: “be of good cheer....” Words of authority: “It is I...” Words of comfort: “be not afraid.”
  - C. It was time for them to say as Nicodemus said in JN 3:2. But, vv. 51-52 – this shows the prejudice of the apostles – they were looking for an earthly King who gave earthly food. They were ready to take the Christ and force Him to assume the throne. HOW could they have missed the spiritual application? [Baptism].
- VII. “HE HATH DONE ALL THINGS WELL” – MK 7:37.
- A. Context: MK 7:31-37.
  - B. This man had not heard a language, nor had he ever spoken any language in his life.
    - 1. V. 35 – He heard for the first time. If one cannot hear words being vocalized there is no way he can articulate them. People who are totally deaf cannot even hear their own voices.
    - 2. Question: Can he understand the language that he is not able to hear?
    - 3. The miracle performed on this man brought to him the understanding of the language of the people around him. Comprehension became immediately possible.
    - 4. Not able to hear – his tongue and lips are not trained. He’s like a baby – needs to learn how to speak. The miracle made it possible for this man to speak fluently without having to learn the mechanics of speech.
    - 5. V. 36 – the news spread like wildfire.
    - 6. V. 37 – the response to the miracle.
- VIII. “NEVER MAN SPAKE LIKE THIS MAN” – JN 7:46.
- A. Context: JN 7:45-53.
  - B. In v. 32 the Jewish rulers had sent officers to arrest Jesus. They left to carry out the orders but returned without Jesus. The rulers wanted to know why? Their answer reveals that these were honest men who actually listened to what Jesus was teaching. They were not blinded by rage, prejudice, or lust for power, as their leaders were.

- C. Their answer: JN 7:46. These officers risked the wrath of their superiors by letting Jesus go. They did not try to make excuses. They revealed their true reaction to the teaching of the Son of God.
  - D. Did you see the hatred these Jewish rulers had for Jesus? They were meeting on the last day of the feast which is the Sabbath!
- IX. "LORD, I BELIEVE" – JN 9:38.
- A. Context: JN 9:35-41.
  - B. Jesus came to seek and save the lost – LK 19:10. V. 35 this man has acknowledged the supernatural power of Jesus and confessed his belief that Christ came from God, Jesus desires for the man's faith to reach a new level. Jesus wants the man to accept Him as the long-awaited Messiah, the Son of God.
  - C. V. 36 – this man genuinely desires to know exactly Who the Son of God is. He failed to realize that Jesus is the One, but he does believe that Jesus will point him toward the Messiah, and Jesus does. V. 37 – Jesus reveals His true identity. V. 38 – once Jesus revealed His identity, the man did not question anymore.
- X. "ALL THE PEOPLE REJOICED" – LK 13:17.
- A. Context – LK 13:10-17.
  - B. Listen to the ruler of the synagogue – v. 14.
  - C. Jesus responds – vv. 15-16. He was a "hypocrite" because the practice in his life was not consistent with what he was professing. He would "loose" an ox on the Sabbath so it could get a drink but objected if a woman was "loosed" from an 18 year deformity.
  - D. Those who heard response – v. 17 – "adversaries – plural – were humiliated – put to shame – implies some change of heart. The people rejoiced not just because of this miracle, but "for all the glorious things" that were done by Jesus.

## CONCLUSION