

Wednesday evening
August 30, 2017

The Courage to Believe: Jesus



Introduction

- Diagnosing illnesses through blood tests
- Society's personal medical team
- Shortcoming spotted...blow out of proportion
- All of us are sin-sufferers!
- We are all wounded-healers!
- Jesus criticized for fraternizing with his patients! (Mark 2:17)



Introduction

- **The church is a spiritual center for sin-disease control**
- **Strict standards: love, humility, forgiveness, golden rule, 1st & 2nd commandment**
- **Unplug our microscopes, Matthew 7 judging**
- **“Encouragers must adopt Jesus’ habit of seeing the good.”**



Points in our Lesson Tonight



- **Chart #1—Spiritual condition of Simon**
- **Chart #2—Spiritual condition of Matthew**
- **Chart #3—Spiritual condition of Adulterous Woman**

Spiritual Chart

	Peter	Matthew	Adulterous Woman
Items to Check			
• Background	Fisherman	Tax Collector	Adultery
• Contact	Andrew	Jesus	Teachers of the law, Pharisees
• Symptoms	Selfishness, brashness, etc.	Despised, perhaps crooked?	Loss of self-esteem, used, abused
• Diagnosis	Sick, sinful, needs forgiveness	Sick, sinful, needs forgiveness	Sick, sinful, needs forgiveness
• Medicine	Dispensed by...Jesus— Great Physician	Dispensed by...Jesus— Great Physician	Dispensed by...Jesus—Great Physician
• Prognosis	Rock—fisher of men	Follower of Jesus; Great Commission	New vision of self; new life, new beginning!

Chart #1

Spiritual Condition of Simon

- **Background...(John 1:40-42)**
- **Contact...Andrew**
- **Symptoms...unstable, impulsive, rash**
- **Diagnosis...Sick, sinful, needs forgiveness (broken promises, betrayal, etc.)**
- **Medicine—dispensed by Jesus— forgiveness, love, and acceptance**
- **Prognosis—Rock, fisher of men, Gospel sermon, Letters, etc.**



Chart #2

Spiritual Condition of Matthew

- **Background...(Matthew 9:9)**
- **Contact...Jesus**
- **Symptoms...despised, rejected, traitor, etc.**
- **Diagnosis...Sick, sinful, needs forgiveness, rest, perhaps crooked? (Luke 3:12, 13)**
- **Medicine—dispensed by Jesus—forgiveness, love, and acceptance**
- **Prognosis— follower of Jesus, great commission**



Chart #3

Spiritual Condition of Adulterous Woman



- Background...(John 8:1-11)
- Contact...Brought to Jesus by teachers of the law and Pharisees
- Symptoms...caught in adultery
- Diagnosis...Sick, sinful, needs forgiveness (broken promises, betrayal, sexual sin, etc.)
- Medicine—dispensed by Jesus— forgiveness, love, and acceptance, new vision & identity!
- Prognosis—She can live a life not steeped in sexual sin. New way of life, self-respect, self-worth

Spiritual Condition



- **Restore with gentleness (Galatians 6)**
- **None so sick but what Jesus the Great Physician can heal!**
- **That is what his death and resurrection promises!**
- **Think of the Simons, Matthews, and “adulterous women” we know today that need to hear from us the words of Jesus, “I believe in you!”**