

HOW TO TURN A BURDEN INTO A MIRACLE MATTHEW 17

Text:

Introduction:

We read here how that Christ had just some time with three of His disciples, Peter, James, and John. When they arrive where the multitudes were we see a certain man that comes to Jesus with a real burden. I glad that this was just a certain man.

We're told that this certain man's son was a lunatic, and sore vexed. He was so bad that he often fell into the fire, and water.

Not only did this certain man have a son that was crazy, but he also took his son to the disciples, but they couldn't help him. How similar is it today, that those who are hurting and have needs, come to Christians for help, but find that they can't help them.

We read the statement made by the Lord, "(Mat 17:17) Then Jesus answered and said, O faithless and perverse generation, how long shall I be with you? how long

shall I suffer you? Who was Jesus speaking to? I believe that He was speaking directly to the disciples.

I also believe that this question directed to the disciples, can be directed to us as well. How long shall I suffer you? I see here in this passage instructions on “How to Turn a Burden into a Miracle”. But before that can happen there are (4) decisions that we must make.

- Stay the same
- Evaluate ourselves honestly
- Be a social Christian
- Be a soul winning Christian

If you decide to stay the same, or to be a social Christian, you can forget turning a burden in to a miracle. However, if you decide to evaluate yourself honestly, and become concerned about the needs of others, these instructions are for you.

1. REALIZE THE NEED (vs. 14,15)

- A. Knew the condition of his son.
- B. Wasn't too proud to ask for help.
- C. Went to the right source to get the need met.

2. REALIZING THE NEED SHOULD PRODUCE A BURDEN (v.14)

A. Was burdened enough to swallow his pride and kneel before the Lord.

B. Some people come to the place that they realize the need, but yet they are never burdened about the need.

3. BECOMING BURDENED ABOUT A NEED SHOULD PRODUCE PRAYER. (v. 15)

A. Some people realize the need, and are burdened about the need, but never pray concerning the burden.

1. Most of the time we try to meet the need ourselves instead of asking for the Lord to meet the need.

4. PRAYER OVER BURDENS PRODUCES FAITH

A. Prayer is the single most powerful resource for the Christian, and usually the least used resource.

5. FAITH PRODUCES EXPECTANCY (vs. 17) BRING HIM TO ME

A. I believe that this certain man had no doubts about what Christ could do for his son.

B. Do you expect the Lord to answer your prayer and meet your needs?

6. EXPECTANCY PRODUCES MIRACLES (VS. 18) “REBUKED THE DEVIL”

Close:

Why isn't this happening today? I believe that we can answer that question in our text.

(Mat 17:19-20 KJV) Then came the disciples to Jesus apart, and said, Why could not we cast him out? {20} And Jesus said unto them, Because of your unbelief: for verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove; and nothing shall be impossible unto you.

1. Lack of faith
2. Lack of prayer

(Mat 17:21 KJV) Howbeit this kind goeth not out but by prayer and fasting.

3. Lack of seriousness (fasting)

Have you seen the need? What need, you ask?

- The needs of others
- The needs of the lost in our area
- The need for the lost throughout the world to hear the gospel

If not ask the Lord to help you see the need.

Or possibly you have seen the need, but are not burdened about it. If so ask God to give you the burden for the need.

Or possibly you have seen the need and are burdened about the need, but are trying to meet the need yourself without praying about it and getting the Lords help.

Or maybe you've seen the need, have become burdened about the need, and have even prayed about it, but have stopped expecting the Lord to meet the need.

Expectancy meets the needs that were are burdened about.