

EXPECTATION W1

Expectation, it's something that every single one of us have in our life. Expectations on our friends, expectation on our family , expectation on ourselves... But did you know that it's important to have an expectation in our faith ? Over the next few weeks leading up to student conference we will be looking at what it means to have a healthy expectation in our faith !

TENSION

How can we have a healthy expectation in our faith ?

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 8:1-3

Large crowds followed Jesus as he came down the mountainside. Suddenly, a man with leprosy approached him and knelt before him. "Lord," the man said, "if you are willing, you can heal me and make me clean." Jesus reached out and touched him. "I am willing," he said. "Be healed!" And the instantly the leprosy disappeared.

ILLUSTRATION

- Tell a story of when you had an expectation for something to be great. (Maybe a nice dinner or someone performing ... something like that)

MAIN POINT: REVELATION IS TIED TO EXPECTATION

There are a couple things from this story we can learn

Point 1 Expectation matters

The man expected Jesus to heal him ! And this wasn't in a prideful way, but in a faith-filled way. HE BELIEVED JESUS COULD ACTUALLY HEAL HIM ! And without that belief , he likely never would have gone before Jesus !

In our faith , our expectation matters! We need to have a healthy expectation that God will do something. Not in a selfish way, but in a way that believes that Jesus can do something new. Do you believe Jesus can heal you? Do you believe Jesus can do something new in you? Fill you with His Holy Spirit ? Because He can ! There's something powerful when this is the posture of our hearts! EXPECTATION MATTERS!

Key: Use the filter of His word

God works in unique ways. And sometimes he does things unexpected. But it's a healthy mindset to use the Bible as a filter. That's why it's important to know your bible. The promises of Jesus in the Bible can translate to us today ! (Elaborate more if you want)

**Point 2
Nearness Matters**

This man coming to Jesus was actually culturally unacceptable. He had leprosy, a very contagious skin disease that made you an immediate outcast. (To soon but Covid) But even with this reality , this man was desperate enough to come near to Jesus. He had to come close first. And when he did , he discovered that Jesus was willing to touch him and heal him. NEARNESS MATTERS!

WHAT'S NEAREST IS CLEAREST! When we draw near to Jesus we began to see and understand and experience that He is willing . Willing to Heal . Willing to do something new in our faith. Willing to fill us . Willing to work miracles. He is willing ! NEARNESS MATTERS!

Key: What has your focus ?

Often times it's what has our focus that we will be the nearest too. What has your focus right now? Circumstances and situations ? A relationship ? Accomplishing something? All these things are not in and of themselves , but when they have all of our attention, they become everything.

Jesus wants to do something in our life! Our expectation matter and nearness matters to Jesus!

Illustration
(Optional story tie everything)

Response

- Salvation and rededication.

Altars

- Write down your expectation
- Draw near in Worship
- Prayer station