

Questions week beginning April 21 2024

Read John 14:5-14

1. Jesus not only reveals to the disciples that He alone is the way to the Father (v6) but also that anyone who has seen Him has seen the Father (v9), that He speaks on the authority of the Father (v10) and that He is in the Father and the Father is in Him (v11). This shows that Jesus is unique. He then says, however, that “*whoever believes*” in Him will not only do the works He has been doing but will do “*even greater things*” (v12). In what ways do you think we can be like Jesus and in what ways can we not?

2. Jesus said that He would do whatever they “*ask in my name*” (v13-14).

- i. What does it mean to “ask in His Name”?
- ii. Do you think this promise of doing whatever they ask for in His name was for His 12 disciples only or for all His disciples for all time? Why?
- iii. What prayer have you recently prayed that you have seen the Lord answer?

Read Mark 6:1-6

3. People in his hometown of Nazareth “*took offence*” at Jesus when he preached in their synagogue (v4). Why?

4. In verses 5 & 6 it says Jesus was amazed at their lack of faith and “*could not*” do any miracles there (except heal a few sick people).

- i. It doesn't say “*would not*” but “*could not*”. Does this mean that having a lack of faith restricts the power of Jesus?
- ii. Do you think Jesus still desires to work miracles through His Church as part of the “*greater things*” mentioned in question 1?
- iii. Have you ever witnessed or personally experienced what you believe to be a “miracle”?

5. In verse 5 it says Jesus put His hands on a few sick people and healed them. On Sunday Glyn listed a number of other examples found in the Gospels where Jesus laid His hands on people or simply touched them, and they were healed. (*see below)

- i. Do you think there is any significance or spiritual benefit from physically “laying hands” on people when praying for them?
- ii. Have you ever received healing through the “laying on of hands” or “laid hands” on anyone and seen them be healed?
- iii. Psalm 63:4 and 1 Timothy 2:8 speak of lifting hands in praise and in prayer. Do you lift your hands when worshipping? If so why, if not, why not?

6. So the residents of Nazareth knew Jesus to be a carpenter (v3) using His natural and taught skills and knew Him to be a miracle worker (v2) and healer (v5) using His supernatural anointing. In both situations He used His hands to be a means of blessing to His community and further afield. In what ways do you, or could you, **be like Jesus** by using your hands to be a blessing to others this week as part of your offering to the Lord?

7. Read together the words of the hymn “Take My life” (see overleaf) as a commitment prayer

*Mark 1:31 & 41-42, 5:41-42, 7:33-35, 8:23-26, 9:27

Matthew 9:29-30 & 20:34 and John 9:6-7

Luke 7:14-15, 13:13, 22:50-51

See also Mark 6:41, 10:16, John 13:3-5, Acts 2:23-24 & Luke 24:39-40

Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my hands, and let them move

At the impulse of Thy love;

Take my feet and let them be
Swift and beautiful for Thee,
Swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my voice, and let me sing
Always, only, for my King;
Take my lips, and let them be
Filled with messages from Thee,
Filled with messages from Thee.

Take my silver and my gold;
Not a mite would I withhold;
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as Thou shalt choose,
Every power as Thou shalt choose.

Take my will, and make it Thine;
It shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart; it is Thine own;
It shall be Thy royal throne,
It shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At Thy feet its treasure-store.
Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for Thee,
Ever, only, all for Thee.

Author: Frances Ridley Havergal (1874)