

# ROGUE MESSIAH

Getting to Know Jesus & Love Him

Pastor Toby Locke • Week 7 • 2/23/2020



## Setting Expectations

Matthew 8:1-4

**Introduction:** Nothing puts pressure on you to define your life and ministry like the presence of a crowd.

### What can we rightfully expect from Jesus?

- He is **PRESENT** in our suffering. (8:3)
- He affirms the **VALUE** of those who **SUFFER**. (8:3)
- He desires to relieve **SUFFERING**. (8:3)
- He rewards **HUMILITY, FAITH & SURRENDER**. (8:2)
- His best **WORK** often goes **UNNOTICED**. (8:4)

**Conclusion:** Jesus loved crowds but He was never intimidated by them – He lovingly called them **OUT OF** the crowd to make a personal commitment to Him. Are you hearing His voice today?

# FIRST BAPTIST HORSEHEADS LIFE GROUPS



Debrief Plan: 2/23/2020

### Icebreakers:

1. What is the most fun you've ever had in a crowd? What was it about that experience that made it so much fun?
2. What is one "big crowd" experience that you would LOVE to experience?

**Sermon Summary:** With crowds often comes the pressure to keep the crowds happy. Instead of giving in to it, Jesus set expectations by affirming the value of a leper and acting decisively to relieve his suffering. In the process he showed what he really wants from those who follow Him – a spirit of humility, faith, and surrender.

### Discussion Questions:

1. How can crowds be dangerous when they like you? When they dislike you?
2. Look at the five expectations Jesus shared with the crowds through his interaction with the leper. Would Jesus' way of handling the leper stand out from other religious leaders like the Pharisees? If so, how?

#### \*He is Present in our Suffering

3. Does it help you when you're suffering to know that Jesus is PRESENT with you? Explain your answer.
4. It's hard to feel Jesus' presence, especially in suffering. What are some ideas about how we can lean into his presence, even when it seems he's not there?

#### \*He Affirms the Value of those who Suffer

5. Who are the "lepers" today that we are tempted to value less than ourselves? How do we figure out who these people are?
6. Do you struggle to believe that you really matter to Jesus? If so, why is that?

#### \*He Rewards Humility, Faith, & Surrender

7. Of the three values that Jesus wants from us, which do you have the hardest time with? Which one comes the easiest? (And, obviously, WHY? 😊)
8. What's the difference between true humility and manipulation (doing whatever you need to do to get God to give you what you want)?
9. Read Daniel 3:16-18. How do the three Hebrew young men illustrate the combination of faith and surrender?

#### \*His Best Work often goes Unnoticed

10. Jesus doesn't seem to want credit for the cleansing. How do YOU handle it when you don't get the credit you deserve for the good you've done?