



Grace Assembly Of God

## CHAPTER-BY-CHAPTER BIBLE READING DEVOTIONAL

Scripture:	Matthew 8	Title:	Daring Faith
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Summary of Chapter	Matthew 8 shows us several stories of Jesus' miracles, displaying His authority over sickness, nature, and demons. In one incident, a Roman officer asked Jesus to heal his servant. When Jesus offered to go to his home to heal him, the officer replied that Jesus could just say the word and heal him from afar without physically seeing or touching him.		

Key Verse(s) NLT	How does it speak to me?
<p><i><sup>10</sup> When Jesus heard this, he was amazed. Turning to those who were following him, he said, "I tell you the truth, I haven't seen faith like this in all Israel!"</i></p> <p>(Matt 8:10)</p>	<p>What is the "faith like this" that Jesus was referring to in the above incident? It was a faith that was not based on past experiences alone, but on who Jesus is. Even though it did not seem that Jesus had ever healed someone in this manner, the Roman officer had daring faith in the authority of Jesus. Just as how he had authority over his soldiers, he knew that Jesus had complete authority over sickness. Jesus commended his daring faith that did not limit who God is.</p> <p>Growing up, I had eczema (a type of skin condition) on my face and other parts of my body. I remember asking God for healing but there did not seem to be much change. Over time whenever I have eczema flare-ups, I usually did not ask God to heal or to expect healing when I prayed, because I had put Him in a box based on my past experiences with Him in this area. I also found it hard to believe that my prayers for healing, whether for myself or others, would result in a miracle.</p> <p>However, on a missions trip years ago, I had the chance to pray for healing for an old lady. She had a badly hunched back and could not walk without much difficulty. Right after the prayer, she could stand up significantly straighter and could walk around effortlessly! I learnt not to base my faith on just past experiences, but on who Jesus is – He is the Great Physician and has authority over all sickness and disease! May we all grow to have daring faith that pleases God.</p>

### APPLICATION REFLECTIONS

Adult:	What is an area of your life that you need to have daring faith that does not limit who God is? (e.g. health, salvation of loved one, etc.) Pray with boldness for it right now.
Youth:	What is one miracle that you are daring to believe God for this coming year? Share and pray with your family for this request.
Child:	What is the most daring thing you have ever done? What do you dare to believe God to do this year?

### PRAYER

Praying Scripture:	Dear heavenly Father, I declare that all authority belongs to You. Help me to trust in Your authority over all things. Give me daring faith that is based on who You truly are, rather than on my past experiences or my own perception of You. Because with You, all things are possible! I submit myself to Your authority and sovereignty in my life.
Thanksgiving Prayer:	I/We thank you for _____ (e.g. delicious food we ate, places we went, prayer that was answered, etc)
Intercessory Prayer:	I/We want to pray for _____ (e.g. healing of sickness, family members, work or study, leaders, nation, etc)
Salvation Prayer:	I/We pray for the salvation of my/our unsaved loved ones _____ (add one name per day). In Jesus' Name I/we pray. Amen.