

**Authority to  
forgive sins**  
Matthew 9:1-8



**1. A surprising diagnosis**

**2. A question of authority:**

Over sickness, nature, demons (Chapter 8)

Authority to forgive sin ????

**A divine prerogative**

“I, even I, am he who blots out your transgressions, for my own sake, and remembers your sins no more.”  
Isaiah 43:25, NIV.

**All sin is against God**

“Against you, you only, have I sinned and done what is evil in your sight, so that you are proved right when you speak and justified when you judge.”  
Psalms 51:4, NIV.

**3. Forgiveness vs Healing**

Which is greater?

Which would you rather have?

Which is easier?

#### **4. Crunch time**

**“so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”**

**Blasphemy or Authority?**

**In Jesus the blessings of heaven invade earth**

#### **5. Gospel declaration: “Your sins are forgiven”**

**We offer forgiveness to others  
as we offer the gospel of forgiveness**

**For the disciple as well as the outsider**

**We need forgiveness**

**“as we forgive those who sin against us”**

**A Christian church:**

**Demonstrates forgiveness**

**Proclaims forgiveness**

**Declares forgiveness**

**Celebrates forgiveness**