

## Sermon Notes – May 1, 2022

### This Morning in God’s Word

We welcome Mr. Craig Alford to our pulpit this morning. Craig, his wife Julie, and daughter Vivian visited us back in January, and our Elders have asked him to return this weekend for further ministry and conversation. The Alford’s currently live in Raleigh, NC, as Craig completes his M.Div. degree at Shepherd’s Theological Seminary.

Craig served in the U.S. Navy from 2006-2011, then attended and graduated from The Master’s University with a B.A. in Biblical Studies and Biblical Languages. During that time, he spent a semester of study in Israel, and at various times, has also been involved in short-term mission trips to Haiti, Cambodia, France, and North Africa.

### Today’s Text: Luke 9:37-45

Our text today finds Jesus nearing the end of His ministry in Galilee, soon to “set His face to go to Jerusalem” (9:51). Luke’s big-picture goal in presenting his account of the life of Jesus, of course, is “that you may have certainty” about the person and work of Jesus. Jesus’ identity is always a key part of the text. Earlier in chapter 9 we find Jesus asking His disciples, “Who do you say I am?” **In our main text, we will find Jesus warning us, His hearers, against partial belief in who He is. Today’s text addresses this by setting two aspects of Jesus’s character side by side.**

### Jesus Has Authority to Heal (37-43a)

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5. Luke 9:45 says that “they did not understand” what Jesus had said, and that “it was concealed from them, so that they might not perceive it.” Based on your understanding of good theology, why didn’t they understand? And why was it concealed from them? What would it take for them to fully believe?

### Thinking Deeper & Taking It Home

Craig mentioned on Sunday that in this week’s text Jesus is warning us against partial belief in who He is. In what ways do people “partially believe” in Jesus? What things keep us from deeper faith and fully believing in Jesus?

### Time to PRAY

(Or do this at the beginning of your group time)

Take time to share prayer requests that relate to the people in your group, and then pray for those needs. Here’s a place to list specific prayer needs:

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Mother’s Day Worship: May 8, 2022

“Wake Up and Rejoice in God’s Salvation”

(Isaiah 50:1-52:12)

Pastor Jay Mosser

## Jesus Is the Son of Man (43b-45)

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## Responding to God's Word in Worship & Obedience

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# Community Group Notes

## Getting Started

May has arrived! The longer-range weather forecast calls for better weather to arrive soon (trust me on this). As the weather warms, what outdoor activities do you most look forward to – and how warm does it have to be for you to truly enjoy those things?

## Talking It Through

1. Review the sermon from Sunday: READ Luke 9:28-45 and remember the main points from Sunday. In summary form, what was this week's sermon about?
2. We mentioned on Sunday that part of Luke's "big-picture" goal in giving us his gospel account is to help us have "certainty" about Jesus (1:4). How does this text help accomplish that goal?
3. We also saw on Sunday that this week's text is very near the "pivot point" in Luke's gospel when Jesus "set His face to go to Jerusalem" (9:51). How does our main text help us prepare for that transition?
4. This will take a few minutes to think about! Luke works very hard at helping us ask the right questions and then find the right answers about Jesus, especially about His true and full identity. Read & think about the following texts, all in Luke's gospel, that help us realize who Jesus truly is:
  - 4:33-36
  - 5:18-26
  - 7:18-23
  - 8:22-25
  - 9:18-20