

Persistence & Determination
Matthew 9:27-34

1. If you could personally witness any of the miracles Jesus performed in Matthew (chapters 8 & 9), which event would you pick and why?
2. Note the titles used by the two men who are blind as they address Jesus. What beliefs are they obviously stating? What was their cry? How do these men show persistence in their desire for healing?
3. Why did Jesus respond to the two blind men with a question? How did they answer the question? What other events in the Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke & John) does Jesus ask questions?

4. What was the condition of the next man that Jesus encounters?

5. What contrast do you see between the crowds and the Pharisees as they both witness the power manifested by Jesus? Why do you think they responded in the way they did?

a. Crowds

b. Pharisees

6. Read through the verses below and reflect on how persistence and determination drives our faith.

- a. Psalm 139:23-24
- b. Matthew 6:33-34
- c. Philippians 3:7-14
- d. II Peter 1:3-9

7. How do persistence, determination and faith go together? What happens when you take persistence/determination away from faith? Have you ever done this? If so, what happened?