

OKOTOKS EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH

JESUS OUR HEALER

MARK 10:46-52

MARCH 8, 2020



SERMON OUTLINE

Introduction

A story of contrasts: a curious crowd with one desperate man, personal agendas and expectations with vulnerability and courage. Most of all, a story with Jesus at the center, contrasting his ability and his identity.

I. Frustration _____ is found when we stop at Jesus'

Job _____ Description _____

-

II. Wholeness _____ begins when we pursue Jesus'

Heart _____

III. Jesus is Always _____ willing to Come _____ Closer _____

Conclusion

We'd prefer our lives were a bonfire of hope and healing, or even a candle. Nobody wants to be the smouldering wick. Nobody wants to be the thief on the

SERMON BASED GROWTH GROUP

cross, waiting to get his legs broken, begging Jesus to just remember him. Nobody wants to be the leper, unclean in the middle of the crowd, begging. But in the kingdom of God, beggars become beautiful people.

What will I do on Monday, with what I have learned on Sunday?

MAIN POINT

Jesus brings spiritual healing to those who cry out to Him for mercy.

THINKING THINGS THROUGH

Connect the sermon to the study.

1. Have you ever had an “eye-opening” experience? Can you share it with the group?

Leader: Examples could include anything from being lied to and suddenly realizing the truth to having God’s Spirit reveal a sin pattern or area of brokenness. For others, it might include their first encounter with Jesus and an act of surrender.

2. How would you describe spiritual blindness? How is spiritual blindness similar to physical blindness? How are the two different?

Leader: Blindness is a form of physical bondage. There are places you can’t go, things you can’t do, and some freedoms you can’t enjoy. But in other ways, physical blindness is a picture of a greater reality for many—spiritual blindness. In the same way that the physically blind Bartimaeus cried out for mercy to Jesus, those who are spiritually blind must cry out to Him for mercy. Jesus is faithful to bring spiritual healing to all who cry out to Him.

DIGGING DEEPER

Unpack the biblical text to discover what the Scripture says or means about a particular topic.

> HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ MARK 10:46-52.

Leader: The healing of Bartimaeus was the final miracle Jesus performed before entering Jerusalem to be crucified. Even as He was headed into the city where He would be betrayed, arrested, accused, beaten, mocked, and crucified, Jesus wasn't focused on Himself, but on meeting the needs of other people.

3. Luke's account of these events tells us that the crowd identified Jesus as "Jesus of Nazareth" (Luke 18:37) while Bartimaeus called Him "Jesus, Son of David." What was significant about these two different designations?

4. What did this reveal about the spiritual blindness of the crowd and the spiritual sight of Bartimaeus? How did the crowd telling the blind man to be quiet evidence this further?

5. Why do you think Jesus asked the man, who was obviously blind, "What do you want me to do for you?"

Leader: When we come to Jesus asking for something, He already knows what we need. But He wants us to ask Him anyway because He's interested not only in what we ask for, but also the heart behind our request. Jesus has not come only to heal our physical ailments and meet our temporal needs but to bring spiritual healing to our hearts.

6. What would you ask for if Jesus inquired what you wanted Him to do for you?

7. What did Bartimaeus's response reveal about the posture of His heart toward Jesus? What does your response reveal about the posture of your heart toward Jesus?

Leader: The request of the blind man showed humility and trust. He trusted Jesus to do something no one else could do or would imagine. To present a true, honest, gut-level

SERMON BASED GROWTH GROUP

request like this before Jesus took a tremendous amount of trust. Our being healed from our spiritual blindness and receiving spiritual sight demands the same kind of trust. It requires us to humbly and honestly confess to God our own great needs.

8. Do you ever struggle to pray honestly with God? Why might this be difficult?

9. What are some ways we might deny opportunities for healing in our physical, emotional, and spiritual states lives by living falsely before God and other believers?

Leader: When people ask us how we are doing, we usually respond by saying, “Fine” even if that’s not the truth. We often spin our situations and hide what’s going on in our lives because we’re afraid to live in the freedom that Jesus offers. Many times, bondage seems easier than honesty because that level of honesty requires us to face our own great need.

10. Following His healing, Bartimaeus followed Jesus. How has the healing work of Christ led you to a deeper commitment in following Him?

Leader: Answers may vary. God’s healing can be work on our souls as much as on our bodies. Encourage answers from a few angles.

DOING LIFE TOGETHER

Help your group identify how the truths from the Scripture passage apply directly to their lives.

11. Jesus drew near to Bartimaeus when he expressed his need. Where do you feel the need for Jesus to draw near to you? How will you express your need to Him?

12. How might our group support and pray for you in any areas you are currently seeking Jesus’ healing in your life?

PRAYER

Close in prayer, asking for God to bring you to a point of desperation in those areas of your life in which you are trusting in yourself and not in Him. Pray that you will see your

SERMON BASED GROWTH GROUP

need for His healing and come to Him for it.

MEMORIZE

⁵¹ “What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him. The blind man said, “Rabbi, I want to see.” – Mark 10:51

SPOTLIGHT ON THE PASSAGE

MARK 10:46-52

10: 46. Jericho was Jesus’ last stop on His way to Jerusalem to die. Afterward, Jesus and His disciples left and joined a large crowd traveling to Jerusalem to celebrate Passover. Beside the road sat a blind beggar, a common sight in the ancient world. The passing of religious pilgrims would provide a good time for beggars to seek assistance. In Aramaic bar means “son,” so the name Bartimaeus [BAHR tih MEE uhs] literally means “son of Timaeus.” Mark may have provided Bartimaeus’ s name because he became a believer and other early believers knew him.

10:47. Apparently Bartimaeus had heard of Jesus and the miracles He had performed, because he began calling out to Him as Son of David. Bartimaeus may have heard Jesus’ ancestry went back to David, which meant Jesus was a Son (descendant) of David. More importantly, based on what he had heard, Bartimaeus believed Jesus was the special One from David’ s line whom God sent to Israel. Though physically blind, Bartimaeus could see clear spiritually. He recognized Jesus as the Messiah and knew only He could provide healing for blind eyes.

10:48. Excited about journeying to Jerusalem for Passover, especially with Jesus, many in the crowd perceived Bartimaeus’ s cries as an unwelcome interruption. They tried to silence him, but he intensified his cries. Knowing Jesus could heal him, Bartimaeus refused to be quiet.

10: 49. Jesus certainly would have had much on His mind. Yet on hearing Bartimaeus’ s cries, our Lord immediately stopped and told the people around Him to call Bartimaeus. Knowing what He faced in Jerusalem, Jesus still took time to help one in need. People from the crowd called out to Bartimaeus. Their initial disgust had become excitement as they realized Jesus might perform a miracle. They encouraged Bartimaeus, telling him to get up and go to Jesus.

10:50. Bartimaeus responded in a positive manner. As others had immediately left their nets to answer Jesus’ call, so Bartimaeus immediately left his place and went to Jesus.

10:51. Asked what he wanted, Bartimaeus addressed Jesus as Rabbouni, meaning “my teacher,” and asked Jesus to enable him to see. Yet Bartimaeus certainly believed Jesus was

SERMON BASED GROWTH GROUP

more than merely an Interpreter of the law. What Bartimaeus had heard of Jesus convinced him Jesus was the Teacher. Bartimaeus knew that only in Jesus could he find healing and words of life.

10:52. Recognizing the blind man's faith, Jesus instructed Bartimaeus to go his way because his faith had healed him. Immediately he could see. healed can also be translated "saved," thus giving a double meaning to Jesus' words. Jesus had healed Bartimaeus' blindness so he could see; but through his faith and Jesus' grace and power, Bartimaeus received a greater gift—salvation and eternal life.

Bartimaeus joined the crowd traveling with Jesus to Jerusalem. Some Bible students suggest he simply joined the crowd so he could go to the temple, present the thanksgiving offering for his sight, and fulfill the law. Most Bible students agree Bartimaeus followed Jesus on the road to Jerusalem, because he desired to follow Jesus for the rest of his life.