

O N C E

M O R E

MARK 8 v 22 – 25

A Blind Man Healed at Bethsaida

²² Then He came to Bethsaida; and they brought a blind man to Him, and begged Him to touch him. ²³ So He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the town. And when He had spit on his eyes and put His hands on him, He asked him if he saw anything. ²⁴ And he looked up and said, “I see men like trees, walking.” ²⁵ Then He put *His* hands on his eyes **ONCE MORE** and made him look up. And he was restored and saw everyone clearly. ²⁶ Then He sent him away to his house, saying, ^[d]“Neither go into the town, nor tell anyone in the town.”

PASSIONATE

PERSISTENT

PRECISE

POSITIVE

PRAISEFUL

1) Be Passionate

The blind beggar shouted to get Jesus' attention. Passion stirs our faith. When we seek God with all our heart, our passion draws the attention of God.

2) Be Persistent

Even when the crowd told the blind man to be quiet, he did not give up. He shouted louder. Similarly, in Luke 18:1-8 Jesus encourages us to be persistent in prayer by telling the story of a widow who combined persistence and faith until her plea was answered.

Then He spoke a parable to them, that men always ought to pray and not lose heart, ² saying: “There was in a certain city a judge who did not fear God nor ^[a]regard man. ³ Now there was a widow in that city; and she came to him, saying, ^[b]‘Get justice for me from my adversary.’ ⁴ And he would not for a while; but afterward he said within himself, ‘Though I do not fear God nor regard man, ⁵ yet because this widow troubles me I will ^[c]avenge her, lest by her continual coming she weary me.’ ”

⁶ Then the Lord said, “Hear what the unjust judge said. ⁷ And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them? ⁸ I tell you that He will avenge them speedily. Nevertheless, when the Son of Man comes, will He really find faith on the earth?”

3) Be Precise

Jesus insisted that the blind man ask specifically for what he wanted. James 4:2-3 is clear that we often have not because we ask not.

James 4 v 2 - 3

² You want what you don't have, so you scheme and kill to get it. You are jealous of what others have, but you can't get it, so you fight and wage war to take it away from them. Yet you don't have what you want because you don't ask God for it. ³ And even when you ask, you don't get it because your motives are all wrong—you want only what will give you pleasure.

4) Be Positive

Our faith, our attitude, should be one of expectancy and trust.

Mark 11 v 24

²⁰ Now in the morning, as they passed by, they saw the fig tree dried up from the roots. ²¹ And Peter, remembering, said to Him, “Rabbi, look! The fig tree which You cursed has withered away.”

²² So Jesus answered and said to them, “Have faith in God. ²³ For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, ‘Be removed and be cast into the sea,’ and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says. ²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*.”

Be Praiseful

The blind man praised God and so did all those around him when he received his sight. Gratitude is the ultimate expression of faith. Philippians 4:6 directs us to not be anxious about anything but pray with thanksgiving as we present our requests to God. Be bold in your faith and ask God for His power in your life. “For we are God’s masterpiece. He has created us anew in Christ Jesus, so we can do the good things he planned for us long ago.” (Ephesians 2:10 NLT)

¹⁰ For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.

Luke 18 v 35 – 43 (A Blind Man Receives His Sight)

³⁵ Then it happened, as He was coming near Jericho, that a certain blind man sat by the road begging. ³⁶ And hearing a multitude passing by, he asked what it meant. ³⁷ So they told him that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by. ³⁸ And he cried out, saying, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

³⁹ Then those who went before warned him that he should be quiet; but he cried out all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”

⁴⁰ So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he had come near, He asked him, ⁴¹ saying, “What do you want Me to do for you?”

He said, “Lord, that I may receive my sight.”

⁴² Then Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has made you well.” ⁴³ And immediately he received his sight, and followed

Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw *it*, gave praise to God.

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MARK 8 v 25

*²⁵ Then He put His hands on his eyes **ONCE MORE** and made him look up. And he was restored and saw everyone clearly. ²⁶ Then He sent him away to his house, saying, “Neither go into the town, nor tell anyone in the town.”*

ONCE MORE, two simple words, but it means so much. It speaks about a second chance, another opportunity. It speaks about allowing God to come in, He has done it before He can do it again. Give God an opportunity in *that* area just **ONCE MORE**, when you do that you will receive your healing (Mark 8 v 25) and your soul will rest (Psalm 116 v 7).

Love and forgive yourself, **ONCE MORE.**