



## EXPLORE THE BIBLE®

1, 2 Kings Sermon Series

Supports Session 8: God Heals

Sermon Title: "Lessons From A Blind Man" (Luke 18:35-43)

### Connection to 2 Kings 5:1-14

Naaman, a great warrior from King Aram's army, needed healing so he went to go see the prophet, Elisha. A blind man, in the New Testament, needed healing too so he cried out to the Prophet, Priest, and King. Jesus provided the healing this man desired and much more.

### Introduction/Opening

Relating to someone's story creates a bond. If you have experienced the loss of a loved one, you know that you can relate to the person that has just lost a loved one. If you have moved to a new city and looked for a new church, you can relate to the newcomer that is here this Sunday hoping that someone will simply say hello. Today's message is one in which we can all relate. We might not be without sight, but we are all prone to blindness. Let's relate to this man's story and discover that Christ offers us all much more than just our sight.

### Outline

#### 1. How We Relate to the Blind Man

**a) We are all beggars (v. 35).** Bible says that this gentleman was sitting by the road begging. He was at a point of complete and total dependance upon another. He did this begging day in and day out.

We have all most likely had times in our lives in which we were not only in want, but also in need. That need may not have been financial, but it was real. We may have even found ourselves at the point of begging God for this need. While we may never wish our struggle upon another person, we would not exchange it for anything either. The time of begging taught us total dependance upon God and we grew during that time.

**b) We should cry out for mercy (v. 38).** The blind man was able to hear and knew that something was taking place around him. Instead of being pitiful and hiding in the corner, he chose to ask someone what was taking place. When he discovered that Jesus was coming, he began to shout or cry out for mercy. He knew he needed help and that Christ was the answer.

You might be like that blind man today in that you are at the end of your rope and find yourself begging. Jesus is here. Will you cry out to Him today? Will you ask Him for mercy? To cry out for mercy means to ask for compassion and care from someone. Jesus can provide the mercy you need; all you need to do is cry out to Him.

**c) We should not be deterred (v. 39).** As Jesus got closer, the man kept crying out. Then some lovely folks decided that he was making a little too much noise and commanded him to keep quiet. The ones in front of Jesus were emphatic in telling the man to be quiet.

How did he respond? He cried out even more. I can't wait to meet this man. He knew Jesus was coming and he was not going to let a group of nay-sayers stop him from talking to Jesus. If you are crying out for mercy today, do not let anyone stop you. Jesus hears you and will respond. He hears you and will respond.

## **2. How Christ Hears and Restores**

**a) Christ hears us (v. 40).** The Bible said that Jesus stopped. This was a blind man. He could not see, but he could hear. He had to know that something was taking place and he refused to give up hope. Can we be like this blind man today? Can we trust in the goodness of God? If Jesus did not care, He never would have stopped. He stopped for this blind man, and He will stop for us too. We can't grow weary of crying out for His mercy.

**b) Christ restores us (v. 42).** Jesus did more than restore the man's sight, Jesus told him that his faith had saved him. Jesus restored his physical blindness as well as his spiritual blindness. The thing that troubled this man, his blindness, is the thing that God used to restore him and make him whole. Yes, the struggles that we experience hurt and we are not sure if we can make it another day. See today that Jesus can use the struggle to provide salvation or draw us closer to Himself with His gift of mercy.

**c) Christ gets all the glory (v. 43).** The Bible says that as soon as the man was healed, he began glorifying God. Those who saw this take place gave praise to God. The life that we live is not about us. We want to think that it is, and we want to make sure that everyone agrees with us. But in the end, it is all about God and giving Him the glory. The man did nothing outside of begging for Jesus. Jesus is the one who healed and restored. When this took place, Jesus is the One who received all the glory and praise.

## **Conclusion**

We have a great deal to learn from a blind man. He knew that he had a problem, and he knew the One who could help him. When the opportune time came, he cried out. He acknowledged Jesus as the Son of David and Lord and then he begged for mercy.

In what way do we need His mercy today? Some might be like the beggar and need to cry out to Him to restore you from the pain you are experiencing. Some might be like the beggar in need of being restored from your spiritual blindness. No matter what the circumstance might be, do not let yourself or others stop you from crying out to Him today.

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