

Seeing Jesus

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Key idea:

Following Jesus is not about the things that he can give us or do for us, but recognizing the thing that he has done for us. With that view, we must in turn serve others with the empowerment he has given us, while pointing the way to him.

Key text:

Mark 10:35-52, CSB

³⁵ James and John, the sons of Zebedee, approached him and said, “Teacher, we want you to do whatever we ask you.”

³⁶ “What do you want me to do for you?” he asked them.

³⁷ They answered him, “Allow us to sit at your right and at your left in your glory.”

³⁸ Jesus said to them, “You don’t know what you’re asking. Are you able to drink the cup I drink or to be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with?”

³⁹ “We are able,” they told him.

Jesus said to them, “You will drink the cup I drink, and you will be baptized with the baptism I am baptized with. ⁴⁰ But to sit at my right or left is not mine to give; instead, it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

⁴¹ When the ten disciples heard this, they began to be indignant with James and John. ⁴² Jesus called them over and said to them, “You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and those in high positions act as tyrants over them. ⁴³ But it is not so among you. On the contrary, whoever wants to become great among you will be your servant, ⁴⁴ and whoever wants to be first among you will be a slave to all. ⁴⁵ For even the

Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.”

⁴⁶ They came to Jericho. And as he was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a large crowd, Bartimaeus (the son of Timaeus), a blind beggar, was sitting by the road. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸ Many warned him to keep quiet, but he was crying out all the more, “Have mercy on me, Son of David!”

⁴⁹ Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.”

So they called the blind man and said to him, “Have courage! Get up; he’s calling for you.” ⁵⁰ He threw off his coat, jumped up, and came to Jesus.

⁵¹ Then Jesus answered him, “What do you want me to do for you?”

“Rabboni,” the blind man said to him, “I want to see.”

⁵² Jesus said to him, “Go, your faith has saved you.” Immediately he could see and began to follow Jesus on the road.

Key points:

1. We should not follow Jesus for what he can do for us, but what he has done for us
2. The disciples had a wrong view of Jesus’ agenda and mission, and that led to spiritual blindness in this area
3. Bartimaeus had a correct view of Jesus’ agenda and mission, and that led to spiritual sight in this area
4. This miracle reveals Jesus as calling his followers to a higher level of discipleship

Questions for discussion/application:

1. What part of Sunday’s text and teaching stood out most to me? Why?
2. What are some ways I might show entitlement toward what God can give

me?

3. In what areas might I be spiritually blind to the realities around me?
4. How can I actively serve the people God has placed in my path?
5. What are some situations in my life that God could be using to help me more fully see his mission?
6. In what areas do I need to cry out to Jesus for healing and restoration?
7. Whom can I pray for, share what I have learned, and invite to church this week?
does it impact the way I reach out to others?

**Preview of next week:
New Series - God's Covenant**