Desperate! The Story of the Blind Beggar

Pastor Chris Engel — July 20, 2025

Mark 10:42-52 (NIV)

⁴² Jesus called them together and said, "You know that those who are regarded as rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their high officials exercise authority over them. ⁴³Not so with you. Instead, whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant, ⁴⁴and whoever wants to be first must be slave of 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."

⁴⁶Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, <u>a blind man</u>, Bartimaeus (which means "son of Timaeus"), <u>was sitting by the roadside begging</u>. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, <u>he began to shout</u>, "<u>Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!</u>" ⁴⁸Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, <u>but he shouted all the more</u>, "<u>Son of David, have mercy on me!</u>" ⁴⁹Jesus stopped and said, "Call him." So they called to the blind man, "Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you." ⁵⁰Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus. ⁵¹"<u>What do you want me to do for you?</u>" Jesus asked him. The blind man said, "<u>Rabbi, I want to see</u>." ⁵²"Go," said Jesus, "<u>your faith has healed you</u>." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

• When you are desperate shout out to God for mercy and be persistent! (vs. 46-48; Joshua 6:12-20)

"Cold prayers never win God's ear. Draw your bow with all your strength, if you wish to send your arrow up to heaven." Spurgeon

"The great fault of the children of God is, they do not continue in prayer; they do not go on praying; they do not persevere!" – George Mueller

• Your prayers should be directed to Jesus and you should pray now while He is here! (vs. 47-50; 2 Corinthians 6:1-2)

The genuine cries for mercy from a desperate soul will always move the heart of God.

- The persistent prayer of faith directed to Jesus makes all the difference. (vs. 51-52; James 4:1-2; Luke 11:5-13; Romans 10:13)
- Your life's purpose is to follow Jesus in "The Way". (vs. 52; John 14:6)

"His way now was to follow Jesus. After all He's done for me, After all He's done for me, How can I do less, than give Him my best, And live for Him completely, After all He's done for me." Smith

• The King came to serve Blind Beggars; that's really good news! (vs. 42-45, 48-52; Luke 19:10)