

WHEN YOU NEED A FRESH START

[God] gives a fresh start to those ready to quit. Psalm 145:14b (MSG)

... sitting beside the road. Mark 10:46 (NLT)

... following Jesus on the road! Mark 10:52 (NASB)

MAIN IDEA: GOD PROVIDES THE OPPORTUNITY OF A FRESH START TO THOSE WHO ARE STUCK OR READY TO QUIT.

LIFE LESSONS FROM A BLIND MAN

1. SEIZE THE MOMENT

Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means "son of Timaeus"), was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me! Mark 10:46-47 (NLT)

Jesus said: No procrastination. No backward looks. You can't put God's kingdom off till tomorrow. Seize the day. Luke 9:62 (MSG)

2. TAME YOUR FEAR

Many of the people scolded him and told him to be quiet. But he shouted even more loudly: Son of David, have mercy on me! Mark 10:48 (GN)

The fear of human opinion disables: trusting in God protects you from that. Proverbs 29:25 (MSG)

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3. ANNOUNCE YOUR FAITH

Jesus asked him: What do you want me to do for you? The blind man answered: Teacher, I want to see. Mark 10:51 (NCV)

Your baptism in Christ was not just washing you up for a fresh start. It also involved dressing you in an adult faith wardrobe – Christ's life, the fulfillment of God's original promise. Galatians 3:27 (MSG)

4. RECEIVE GOD'S GRACE

Jesus said to him: Go, your faith has made you well. Immediately he regained his sight... Mark 10:52a (NAS)

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith – and this not from yourselves, it is the gift of God – not by works, so that no one can boast. For we are God's workmanship, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do. Ephesians 2:8-10

5. TAKE THE NEXT STEP

...he regained his sight and Jesus] on the road. Mark 10:52b (NASB)

...If people say they have faith, but do nothing, their faith is worth nothing... James 2:14

Everything that we have – right thinking and right living, a clean slate and a fresh start – comes from God by way of Jesus Christ. 1 Corinthians 1:30

SEIZE THE MOMENT TAME YOUR FEAR ANNOUNCE YOUR FAITH RECEIVE GOD'S GRACE TAKE THE NEXT STEP

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