



# *The Growth of Faith.*

## *MATTHEW 20:29-34*

**Introduction:** I want you to picture in your mind being surrounded by a \_\_\_\_\_, energetic crowd, yet you are living in total darkness – you are blind. You hear the shuffle of feet, the excited whispers of people, and then one name begins to rise above the noise—you hear the name of \_\_\_\_\_. For two blind men sitting outside the city of Jericho, this moment would change everything.

**Question:** Do you know any \_\_\_\_\_ people?

So, what do we discover about the \_\_\_\_\_ of faith found in this text?

### **1. Faith Takes the First \_\_\_\_\_ – *Matthew 20:29***

*“Now as they went out of Jericho, a great multitude followed Him.”*

Those words are providing for us more than a \_\_\_\_\_ location.

Once again, our text tells us that Jesus was heading toward \_\_\_\_\_ – towards the cross, His divine appointment.

### **A Heightened Sense of Hearing**

We all know that often when someone loses one sense, another sense becomes \_\_\_\_\_. In this case, it was their hearing.

In today's world, the Good News is often drowned out by \_\_\_\_\_ pollution, entertainment, people's various opinions, and all the many distractions. However, there are still some who, in their darkness, hear the name, JESUS, and are drawn to Him. Praise God. Amen!

**Hear this:** Faith doesn't require full \_\_\_\_\_. It requires immediate action and a willingness to do something now.

Faith begins not with sight, but with a first \_\_\_\_\_.

## 2. Faith Begins with \_\_\_\_\_ – *Matthew 20:30*

*“And behold, two blind men sitting by the road, when they heard that Jesus was passing by, cried out, saying, ‘Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!’”*

They “\_\_\_\_\_” that Jesus was passing by—and cried out. Their cry, *“Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David,”*

*“Lord”* affirms His \_\_\_\_\_, and *“Son of David”* acknowledges Jesus as the \_\_\_\_\_, the long-awaited King from David's line.

John MacArthur (who just graduated into glory this past week at 86) penned, “Their use of ‘Lord’ and ‘Son of David’ indicates that they believed Jesus to be the \_\_\_\_\_... Their faith was humble, persistent, and direct—and it was rewarded.”

Look at what they ask for: \_\_\_\_\_.

Faith begins by \_\_\_\_\_—and believing—who Jesus is. Jesus is the Son of God, and He is the Messiah.

**Question:** Is He your \_\_\_\_\_? Is He your Lord?

## 3. Faith Pushes Through \_\_\_\_\_ – *Matthew 20:31*

*Then the multitude warned them that they should be quiet; but they cried out all the more, saying, “Have mercy on us, O Lord, Son of David!”*

The crowd tried to \_\_\_\_\_ them.

H.A. Ironside penned: As through Jesus was not to be troubled by poor \_\_\_\_\_ such as they.”

But they didn’t listen.

We read, “*All the more*”. They escalated their \_\_\_\_\_. Real faith presses through resistance.

2 Corinthians 6:2, *Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.*

Faith \_\_\_\_\_—even when opposed.

#### **4. Faith Responds When Jesus \_\_\_\_\_ – *Matthew 20:32***

*So Jesus stood still and called them, and said, ‘What do you want Me to do for you?’”*

It is in this verse that we find one of the most beautiful statements found in the Bible, *Jesus stood still...*

When others pass by your pain, Jesus \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Nursing Home Ministry**

Jesus doesn’t dismiss your \_\_\_\_\_. He asks, “*What do you want Me to do for you?*”—This is His invitation to respond.

Faith listens for JESUS—and responds.

**Question:** What do you \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus to do for you?

#### **5. Faith Speaks with \_\_\_\_\_ – *Matthew 20:33***

*They said to Him, ‘Lord, that our eyes may be opened.’”*

This is faith without \_\_\_\_\_ —clear, direct, confident.

The Greek word for “*opened*” implies that they understood that this was something \_\_\_\_\_ sized, that it would take divine intervention.

Folks, the \_\_\_\_\_ man is blind, and the only one that can open eyes to see is JESUS.

Faith asks clearly and \_\_\_\_\_ for what only Jesus can do.

The greatest need that \_\_\_\_\_ people have is the need for spiritual sight.

## **6. Faith Receives and \_\_\_\_\_ – *Matthew 20:34***

*So Jesus had compassion and touched their eyes. And immediately their eyes received sight, and they followed Him.*

The words for “*had compassion*” mean the \_\_\_\_\_ of the inward parts, the twisting of the intestines. It’s not pity; it’s a visceral response that moves one to action.

Jesus could have healed with a word, but instead He \_\_\_\_\_ them – a personal, tender act. And their response? They followed Him.

**Conclusion:** So, as I close, what does this passage reveal to us about **the Growth of Faith**? Six ways faith grows:

1. \_\_\_\_\_ – They heard about Jesus – 20:30
2. **Believing**– They called Him “*Son of David*” and “*Lord*” – 20:30
3. \_\_\_\_\_ – They shouted louder despite being rebuked – 20:31
4. **Responding**– They answered Jesus’ call – 20:32
5. \_\_\_\_\_ – They asked for sight with confidence – 20:33
6. **Following**– They became disciples – 20:34