

CRY LOUDER

MARK 10:46-52



LOUDER SERIES

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Scripture Reading

Mark 10:46-52 (NKJV)

Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus

(Matt. 20:29–34; Luke 18:35–43)

46 Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging. 47 And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

48 Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

49 So Jesus stood still and commanded him to be called.

Then they called the blind man, saying to him, "Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you."

50 And throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus.

51 So Jesus answered and said to him, "**What do you want Me to do for you?**"

The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight."

52 Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.

Song Lyrics

KUMBAYA Kum ba yah ("Come by Here")

Kumbaya, my Lord, kum ba ya;

Kumbaya, my Lord, kum ba ya;
Kum bay ya, my Lord, kum ba ya,
O Lord, kum ba ya.

Someone's praying Lord kum ba ya;
Someone's praying Lord kum ba ya;
Someone's praying Lord kum ba ya;
O Lord, kum ba ya.

Someone's crying Lord kum ba ya;
Someone's crying Lord kum ba ya;
Someone's crying Lord kum ba ya;
O Lord, kum ba ya.

Someone's singing Lord kum ba ya;
Someone's singing Lord kum ba ya;
Someone's singing Lord kum ba ya;
O Lord, kum ba ya.

Introduction

It wouldn't be the first time Jesus had His Name called out in a crowd. He often moved through towns, villages and regions with hundreds if not thousands of people following behind Him. Many calling out to Him, trying to grab His clothes, jostling to get a better view of Him, climbing through windows and roofs to see Him and even climbing trees to get a birds-eye view of Him. But in each of those instances, Jesus often responded to individual cries, touches, climbers and those of few words by recognizing their voices, their touches, their effort and their words of faith because they spoke more loudly and pulled so strongly on His Spirit. This was one of those times where the very cry itself rang so loudly in Jesus' Spirit that He could not ignore this loud request. Let's get into the framework of the text and see where this took place.

Jericho The Loud City

Jericho in the OT and the nearby town of Jericho in the NT (now combined in today's Jericho) was known for its high commerce. It was buzzing with affluence and this was more so the case with the Jericho we see in the New Testament.

It's so interesting that at this region of Jericho seen here in the New Testament is only a little over a mile away from the famous Jericho in the Old Testament. A place that is historically and Biblically known for its historic war and downfall by "loud voices." In the Old Testament it was said that Jericho's soil was rich and different from the dessert surrounding regions allowing the fertile ground to grow many Palm Trees. It was known as the "City of Palms." And in the next chapter we see Palms used in Jerusalem (approx 15-18 miles away) to welcome Jesus into Jerusalem. Jericho in the NT is also the city where Jesus honed in on the 'loud curiosity' of Zacchaeus, who climbed the Sycamore tree to hear

Jesus teach. That loud curiosity caught Jesus' attention and Jesus invited Himself over to Zaccheus' house. And yes it was in this same city that 1 voice could be heard above the rest! It was the voice of a blind man named Bartimaeus.

The Loud Request

Just earlier in this chapter of Mark 10 (perhaps on a different day but in the same chapter), we read about Jesus' conversation with James and John. They came to Jesus and said "Teacher, we want You to do for us whatever we ask." Jesus answered and said "What do you want Me to do for You?" They preceded to ask Jesus for favor to sit on His Right Hand and Left Hand when Jesus comes into His Heavenly Kingdom.

- Presumptuous request (but not a "loud" one)
- Bold request (but not a "loud" one)
- Unreasonable request (but not a "loud" one)
- A Selfish Request (but not a "loud" one)

This wasn't the kind of request that pulled on Jesus' heart strings, touched His Spirit or moved Him to action. This request was about:

- Status
- Importance
- Pride
- Privilege
- Glory
- Recognition
- Comparison

But later in the text, Jesus asked the same question to Bartimaeus:

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51 So Jesus answered and said to him, "What do you want Me to do for you?"

The blind man said to Him, "Rabboni, that I may receive my sight."

52 Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.

Now this was a LOUD request:

- His LOUD desire caught Jesus' attention
- His LOUD passion to cry out even when he was warned to keep quiet
- He called Jesus by His "full government name" Jesus thou Son of David
 - this was a Messianic title pointing to Jesus as the Messiah
 - this was something that the Pharisees were not willing to acknowledge about Jesus
 - this was probably why Bartimaeus was being warned not to shout what he was shouting too loudly
 - it would bring too much attention to Jesus or attach a title on Jesus that others were uncomfortable with

- But it touched Jesus and He couldn't ignore it because that's who He really is!
- He then addresses Jesus as Rabboni
 - this is often translated as Teacher, but it has a more intimate application.
 - it means "my Teacher" or "my Master"
 - it expresses a desire and dependence on the Words spoken out of Jesus' mouth
 - It shows his complete faith in what Jesus would say or do
- His request was simple but, to me, it was profound
 - "my Teacher, my Master, that I may receive my sight"
 - "allow me to see so I can serve you"
 - "allow me to see so I can follow you"
 - "allow me to see so I can learn from you"

The Cry That Gets Jesus Attention

- Bartimaeus may not have realized it but his cry was a form of worship
 - He recognized who Jesus was (not by seeing but by hearing)
 - Others saw the miracles but didn't believe
 - Romans 10:17 So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
- The cry for Jesus that acknowledges who He really is gets His attention
 - Jesus' response indicates that He may be inwardly saying
 - ◆ "...you're not just calling out for Me for what you want but because you know Who I Am."
 - ◆ "...you're not just calling out for Me because of what I can do, My Power, My Presence, My Glory; but it's because you really know Who I Am"
 - ◆ "...and after I've done for you what you asked, you won't just walk away from Me but you'll follow Me."

Conclusion

I'd like to end with this thought. The posture of Bartimaeus was a humble but bold one. After he called for Jesus in a way that couldn't be ignored, the Bible says that Jesus stood still and commanded that Bartimaeus be called.

- He didn't wait for Jesus to come to him.
- Blind Bartimaeus rose up and walked to Jesus
- "Even if I'm blind, I can still follow the sound of Your Voice"
- "And if I can follow the sound of voice when I'm blind, I can follow you when I receive my sight"

Jesus replied that his faith had made him well. And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road. Whatever you are seeking Jesus for today, cry LOUDER to Him like you know Who He Is and that is a cry that He cannot refuse.

Hebrews 11:6 (NKJV)

6 But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him.

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— *The Cry is just as important as the Answer* —

- Crying out to God earnestly keeps you from taking your own vengeance - Psalms 17:1-5
- God allows the Cry to prolong sometimes.
 - It's in these times that the content of our heart becomes clear to us and testimonies of the Lord's past faithfulness become remembered.
 - A true perspective on who God is and who we are becomes clear and an answer becomes imminent.
 - Psalms 22:1-5
- Crying unto the Lord repeatedly builds expectancy (the hope-filled waiting on the Lord)
 - Psalms 27:1-14