

**I. Review**

**A. Text**

**John 14:12 NKJV** “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father. And whatever you ask in My name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son”

**II. Greater things require greater response.**

*Our response to God has much to do with our receiving from Him.*

*Our approach to Him determines His approach to us.*

**A. Scriptures**

**1. James 4:8**

- **NKJV** “Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you. Cleanse *your* hands, ye sinners; and purify *your* hearts, ye double minded”
- **NLT** “Come close to God, and God will come close to you”

**2. Matt 5:6**

- **NKJV** “Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, For they shall be filled.”

**3. Jeremiah 29:13**

- **NKJV** “And ye shall seek me, and find *me*, when ye shall search for me with all your heart.”
- **AMP** “Then [with a deep longing] you will seek Me *and* require Me [as a vital necessity] and [you will] find Me when you search for Me with all your heart”

**4. Proverbs 8:17**

- **NKJV** “I love those who love me, And those who seek me diligently will find me”

**5. Heb 11:6**

- **NKJV** “But without faith *it is* impossible to please *him*: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him”
- **Weymouth New Testament** “But where there is no faith it is impossible truly to please Him; for the man who draws near to God must believe that there is a God and that He proves Himself a rewarder of those who earnestly try to find Him”

**6. Evidence from these passages.**

- a. Everyone is given an opportunity to be a seeker.
- b. Everyone doesn't take advantage of seeking him on the same level.
- c. The reward of seeking is in the hands of the seeker.

**PASTOR'S NOTE: Greater Things Require Greater Seeking. *Greater seeking is a greater response – greater approach!***

**B. Examples of response and approach of receivers in scripture.****1. The woman with the issue of blood**

- a. **Mark 5:25-34 NKJV** “Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came behind *Him* in the crowd and touched His garment. For she said, ‘If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well.’ Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in *her* body that she was healed of the affliction. And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, ‘Who touched My clothes?’ But His disciples said to Him, ‘You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, ‘Who touched Me?’ And He looked around to see her who had done this thing. But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to

her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. And He said to her, ‘Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction.’”

- b.** There was nothing convenient regarding her approach.
- c.** The response of her faith took diligence, courage, and effort on her part.
- d.** It wasn’t a casual response.

*Casual – relaxed – or unconcerned – no feeling or showing little concern – little effort – without planning or preparation.*

*She had a plan.*

*The plan took preparation.*

*She executed the plan.*

*She showed up.*

*She moved into proximity.*

*She reached forth to touch.*

*She received her miracle.*

*Everything she did with the opposite of casual, idol, apathy,*

**PASTOR’S NOTE: Greater Things – Require a Greater Response!**

**2. Bartimaeus**

- a.** **Mark 10:46-52 NKJV** “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. 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!’ Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, ‘Son of David, have mercy on me!’ 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.’ And

throwing aside his garment, he rose and came to Jesus. 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.' 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."

- a. When he heard that Jesus was coming, he took advantage and moved into position to receive something greater.
- b. He used what he had - His voice.
- c. He refused to allow anything or anyone hinder him in this moment to receive.
- d. Whenever an opportunity arises to receive from the Lord – Satan will set diversions in place to keep you from the place of your miracle.
  - Guard your schedule.
  - Set your priorities.
  - Do not be moved!

### 3. Things to notice about these examples:

- a. They were not willing to hide in the shadows. They moved to the forefront.
- b. Everyone who received from Jesus came forward!
- c. They moved into proximity.
- d. There is not record of those receiving who did not show up or who were not willing to step out.
- e. **Mark 6:54-56 NKJV** "And when they came out of the boat, immediately the people recognized Him, ran through that whole surrounding region, and began to carry about on beds those who were sick to wherever they heard He was. Wherever He entered, into villages, cities, or the country, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged Him that they

might just touch the hem of His garment. And as many as touched Him were made well.”

#### 4. Practical Application

- a. Receivers show up.
- b. Receivers stay connected to what’s going on.
- c. Receivers move into proximity - as close as they can get.
  - **Acts 5:15-16 NKJV** “so that they brought the sick out into the streets and laid *them* on beds and couches, that at least the shadow of Peter passing by might fall on some of them. Also a multitude gathered from the surrounding cities to Jerusalem, bringing sick people and those who were tormented by unclean spirits, and they were all healed”
  - ***IF THE SHADOW OF PETER WAS ON THEM – THEY WERE NOT SITTING AS FAR BACK AS THEY COULD GET.***
- d. Receivers didn’t always wait to be called for.

*10 lepers*
- e. Receivers respond immediately when the call is given.

*Bartimaeus didn’t wait or hesitate*
- f. When prayer is offered – especially by the direction of the Spirit for a specific need – we should hurry to the altar.

*How we approach the altar says much about our expectance to receive.*