

WHEN THEY HEARD...

Throughout the gospels when people heard Jesus was passing by or coming into their town, huge crowds immediately gathered and there were great miracles and healings of all kinds

Upon hearing Jesus would be present, people believed they had a chance to experience the miraculous!

Did you hear me? When they heard, they responded!

This is what Jesus said to us

John 14:12 “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.

Greater works – the church must stop settling for mediocrity and believe where we are, Jesus is!

People still respond where Jesus is moving

Mark 10:46-52 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, ^[a]“Rabboni, that I may receive my sight.”

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

Bartimaeus may have been blind but he could hear about Jesus!

So many people in our world are blind spiritually and in the church many have never seen a real demonstration of the supernatural power of God

Bartimaeus could not see the healings and miracles with his eyes, but he could hear the reports of the One who was doing the miraculous and that was enough to stir his faith!

Romans 10:17 So then faith *comes* by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.

And that's what causes us to walk by faith and not by sight according to

2 Cor 5:7 For we walk by faith not by sight

Luke 19:1-10 Then *Jesus* entered and passed through Jericho. ² Now behold, *there was* a man named Zacchaeus who was a chief tax collector, and he was rich. ³ And he sought to see who *Jesus* was, but could not because of the crowd, for he was of short stature. ⁴ So he ran ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see Him, for He was going to pass that way. ⁵ And when *Jesus* came to the place, He looked up ^[a]and saw him, and said to him, "Zacchaeus, ^[b]make haste and come down, for today I must stay at your house." ⁶ So he ^[c]made haste and came down, and received Him joyfully. ⁷ But when they saw *it*, they all ^[d]complained, saying, "He has gone to be a guest with a man who is a sinner."

⁸ Then Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Look, Lord, I give half of my goods to the poor; and if I have taken anything from anyone by false accusation, I restore fourfold."

⁹ And *Jesus* said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he also is a son of Abraham; ¹⁰ for the Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."

Once you've heard of Him, you start looking to see Him move in your life

Zacchaeus had no problem with his eyesight, his limitation was he was too short to see Jesus in the crowd

He was also a chief tax collector, which means he was both known and hated by everyone

Zacchaeus had heard of Jesus and wasn't going to allow any limitation to stop him from both seeing Jesus and Jesus seeing him

He climbed up in the tree because he had to see Jesus with his own eyes and his persistence and determination not only allowed him to see Jesus, but to host His very presence in his house! Come on!

Jesus was looking to seek and save the lost so He welcomed Zacchaeus even though he was hated and despised by so many, Jesus said bring them to Me and they will find life!

This morning did you come to see Jesus move in your life?

Mark 5:24-34 So Jesus went with him, and a great multitude followed Him and thronged Him.

²⁵ Now a certain woman had a flow of blood for twelve years, ²⁶ and had suffered many things from many physicians. She had spent all that she had and was no better, but rather grew worse. ²⁷ When she heard about Jesus, she came behind *Him* in the crowd and touched His garment. ²⁸ For she said, "If only I may touch His clothes, I shall be made well."

²⁹ Immediately the fountain of her blood was dried up, and she felt in *her* body that she was healed of the ^[a]affliction. ³⁰ And Jesus, immediately knowing in Himself that power had gone out of Him, turned around in the crowd and said, "Who touched My clothes?"

³¹ But His disciples said to Him, "You see the multitude thronging You, and You say, 'Who touched Me?' "

³² And He looked around to see her who had done this thing. ³³ But the woman, fearing and trembling, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell down before Him and told Him the whole truth. ³⁴ And He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well. Go in peace, and be healed of your affliction."

Sometimes getting to Jesus calls for reckless pursuit

v. 27

when she heard about Jesus, all her disappointments, false hopes, brokenness, isolation, and poverty said this is my one shot. I can't allow my issues or my reputation to keep me from touching the One who will fix me!

What issue has kept you isolated and broken with no hope in sight?

After she had exhausted all her means and ideas for 12 years, she heard about Jesus!

The difference maker in our situation is when we stop trying to fix ourselves and focus solely on touching the one and only One who can!

This woman finally understood my answer is in getting close to Jesus with just a touch (she finally had nothing left to lose, she was right, one touch was all it took!)

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Mark 2:1-5 And again He entered Capernaum after *some* days, and it was heard that He was in the house. ² ^[a]Immediately many gathered together, so that there was no longer room to receive *them*, not even near the door. And He preached the word to them. ³ Then they came to Him, bringing a paralytic who was carried by four *men*. ⁴ And when they could not come near Him because of the crowd, they uncovered the roof where He was. So when they had broken through, they let down the bed on which the paralytic was lying.

⁵ When Jesus saw their faith, He said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven you."

The importance of being at the right place at the right time

v. 1 They heard Jesus was in the house, come on church!

When people begin to hear that Jesus is in this house, immediately they will come and fill up the house so there is no more room

If this paralytic would have had to depend on himself to get in that house, it wouldn't have happened

But he had 4 people who loved him and carried him to Jesus - the Healer who would refuse to let him stay in the same shape

It was their responsibility to get him to Jesus, it's our responsibility too, church!

It was not the paralytic's faith, it was those who got him to Jesus, faith that positioned him in Jesus to receive a complete miracle both body and soul!

Come on church! Jesus is moving in the house and it's time you let people hear it. He will do the same miracles today!

Mark 16:15 And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature."

Those four men did their job of getting this man to Jesus. Will you do the same?