March 24, 2019

Mark 10:46-52 – Application Questions

1. The blind beggar, Bartimaeus, began shouting for Jesus’ help. But people around him tried to hinder him and told him to be quiet. Unfortunately, the people who hindered this man from reaching Jesus were religious people. **In what ways have Christians, at times, hindered others from knowing Jesus?**
2. When Jesus heard the man yelling for him, Jesus asked him, “What do you want me to do for you?”  **If Jesus is all-knowing (and already knew what Bartimaeus wanted), why do you think Jesus asked him anyways?**
3. **Parents and Grandparents: If Jesus asked you, “What do you WANT me to do for your child or grandchild?” – What would you say? Be honest.**
4. **What are some reasons (good or bad) that people might want to serve Jesus?**
5. **If you follow Jesus, why did you ORIGINALLY decide to serve him? Was it out of noble or selfish reasons (or a little of both)?**
6. **How would you encourage a new Christian to move from “serving Christ for what they can get” (i.e. eternal life, marriage help, a sense of purpose, etc.) to “serving Christ for what they can give?”**
7. **Does that kind of Christian maturity happen automatically, or do certain variables have to take place for it to occur?**
8. Mark explains that “instantly” the man could see once Jesus healed him.  **How come God answers some of our prayers instantly and others can take years?**
9. Jesus says to the man, “Your faith has healed you.”  **How much faith does a person need to have their prayers answered? A lot? A little?**
10. Mark explains that once Bartimaeus was healed of his blindness that he began to follow Jesus. **If Jesus decided NOT to restore Bartimaeus’ physical sight, do you think he would have still served Jesus?**
11. **If Jesus told you, “Even though I love you, I’m not going to answer any more of your prayers” - How would that impact your desire to follow him?**
12. **Anything else jump out to you about this story that you are confused about or an insight you’d like to share?**

**TAKE HOME:**

* **What’s your action step related to this week’s sermon?**
* **If applicable, ask your partner or child how you can pray for them this week that will help them implement their action step.**