

Messages from a Mugging: Seeing Clearly Eventually

Mark 8:22–26

📖 Luke 10:33b (NKJV) “...And when he saw him, he had compassion.”

People need **to be brought** to Jesus.

📖 Mark 8:22 (NIV) “They came to Bethsaida, and some people brought a blind man and begged Jesus to touch him.”

📖 Luke 4:18–19 (NIV) “The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because He has anointed me to preach good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners and recovery of sight for the blind, to release the oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

People need **a private encounter** with Jesus.

📖 Mark 8:23a (NIV) “He took the blind man by the hand and led him outside the village.”

People need **a personal experience** with Jesus.

📖 Mark 8:23b–24 (NIV) “When He had spit on the man’s eyes and put His hands on him, Jesus asked, “Do you see anything?” ²⁴ He looked up and said, “I see people; they look like trees walking around.”

📖 Mark 8:25-26 (NIV) “Once more Jesus put His hands on the man’s eyes. Then his eyes were opened, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. ²⁶ Jesus sent him home, saying, “Don’t go into the village.”

📖 Matthew 9:27–30a (NIV) As Jesus went on from there, two blind men followed him, calling out, “Have mercy on us, Son of David!” ²⁸ When He had gone indoors, the blind men came to Him, and He asked them, “Do you believe that I am able to do this?” “Yes, Lord,” they replied. ²⁹ Then He touched their eyes and said, “According to your faith will it be done to you”; ³⁰ and their sight was restored.”

📖 Luke 18:35–43 (NIV) “As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶ When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening. ³⁷ They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” ³⁸ He called out, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ³⁹ Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁰ Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to Him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, ⁴¹ “What do you want me to do for you?” “Lord, I want to see,” he replied. ⁴² Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has healed you.” ⁴³ Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God.”

Two step speculation:

1. Maybe **the blind guy needed to ease into it.**
2. Maybe **there is a principle hidden in it.**


📖 Mark 8:17–21 (NIV) “Jesus asked them: “Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not see or understand? Are your hearts hardened? ¹⁸ Do you have eyes but fail to see, and ears but fail to hear? And don’t you remember? ¹⁹ When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many basketfuls of pieces did you pick up?” “Twelve,” they replied. ²⁰ “And when I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand, how many basketfuls of pieces did you pick up?” They answered, “Seven.” ²¹ He said to them, “Do you still not understand?””

📖 1 Corinthians 13:12 (NIV) “Now we see but a poor reflection as in a mirror; then we shall see face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I am fully known.”

📖 1 Corinthians 13:12 (LB) “In the same way, we can see and understand only a little about God now, as if we were peering at His reflection in a poor mirror; but someday we are going to see Him in His completeness, face-to-face. Now all that I know is hazy and blurred, but then I will see everything clearly, just as clearly as God sees into my heart right now.”

IMPACT

- **Imitating Christ**
- **Meeting Needs**
- **Proclaiming the Good News**
- **Assimilating people into the church**
- **Celebrating God**
- **Teaching the Word of God**

 *Who brought you to Jesus? Have you thanked them lately? Whom do you need to bring to Jesus? Who are you begging Jesus to touch? When was the last time you and Jesus had a private moment together? Do you miss your time with Jesus? In what ways has God uniquely tailored your experience with Him? Why do you think Jesus healed the blind man in today's story in stages? What are you waiting on God to complete?*