

# Causes & Cures For Blindness

“Case For Christ”, part 36, Insights from Mark 10:32-52  
Josh Ollier, October 2nd, 2022, GPC

## Causes For Spiritual Blindness:

*“Having eyes do you not see ...” Mark 8:18 (ESV)*

- **Preoccupation with ...**

**P ...**

**P ...**

- **Procrastination with P ...**  
(James 1:22)

## Cures For Spiritual Blindness:

- **A\_\_\_\_\_ our need \_\_\_\_\_**  
(1 Corinthians 13:12)

- **A\_\_\_\_\_ Him for \_\_\_\_\_**  
(James 1:5, Matthew 7:7-8)

- **A\_\_\_\_\_ on what \_\_\_\_\_**  
(James 1:6-8, Philippians 4:9)

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## **This Week's Discussion Guide**

Welcome to our sixth week of our Fall Small Group Season at GPC! Our study and discussion this fall will be based on our current Sunday series at GPC called, "Case For Christ".

In this series, we are slowly unpacking the Gospel of Mark. Each week we will read and reflect on a passage from Mark's gospel and discuss ways we can apply what we reflect on to our daily lives.

It is our prayer at GPC for our Sundays and small groups to provide the encouragement we all need to support each other as we desire to grow closer to God and build friendships as part of our vision at GPC to raise up committed Christ followers in a healthy church community.

### **Getting Started:**

Each week, we typically start out with a few lighter questions to get us warmed up :).

In Mark 10:46-52, Jesus heals a man from blindness who was begging for food.

We have all been 'in the dark' literally from time to time.

What is a memory you have where you were without sufficient light for a period of time?

What caused the situation? If you were alone, how did you take care of yourself?

If you weren't alone, how did someone care for you and/or how did you care for someone else?

Like in Jesus' day, we have all seen people who were asking for food or help.

What has gone through your mind when you walk or drive by these individuals?

Have you ever stopped to help someone? If so, what did you do to help them?

How do you discern what to do or not do in those situations?

In Mark 10:35-37, two of Jesus' disciples ask him if they could have certain positions of authority and status when he establishes his kingdom. Speaking of being put in positions of authority, status, etc. ... what positions of authority or responsibility have you been in where you felt it stretched you? What did you learn about yourself or leadership in that season?

We have all been part of teams or groups where there were good leaders and some ... not so good. What are some qualities of good leaders where people want to be on their team and work with them? What are some qualities from a boss or leader that weaken a team's morale and productivity?

### **Reviewing and Reflecting on last Sunday's Passage:**

Let's read the main passage from last Sunday. (Mark 10:32-52)

After reading this passage and looking back on our notes from Sunday, was there a particular thought, verse or comment that caught your attention, challenged you or raised a question for you?

## **Digging Deeper:**

1. In Mark 10:35-40, the disciples asked to have positions and places of glory in God's Kingdom. Jesus responded by asking if they were able to take part in His suffering and remain faithful. Back then and today, God's people do experience trials and sufferings.

Let's read the following passages related to suffering as a result of our faith in Jesus and share any insights that we see. (Matthew 5:3-11, Romans 12:12-16, Romans 8:28-29, 1 Peter 1:6-9, James 1:2-4) How might God have used trials and suffering to mature you?

2. God often equips us through trials and difficult seasons in our lives to be able to minister to others. Let's read 2 Corinthians 1:3-7 and share any insights we see.

Can you think of any positive or negative examples in your life when someone attempted to show you compassion or empathy? Is there anything you can learn from what they did or didn't do? Before we move on in our discussion, let's stop and pray and ask God to show us how he can use our trials, sufferings, or difficulties to minister to others.

3. In Mark 10:46-52, the blind man didn't listen to the crowd but kept crying out for Jesus to have mercy on him and help him see. Why was the crowd so quick to try and keep him quiet?

God eventually rewarding persistence is a common theme in the Bible. In your opportunities to demonstrate persistence, what are the top few things that might hinder you from continuing to 'ask, seek and knock' when it comes to crying out to God and waiting for His timing?

4. The last point that was shared from Sunday's message was the importance of acting on what God reveals to us. At GPC, we place a big emphasis on not only knowing the Bible but applying it to our lives as well. What insights do you see in the following passages that can help us get to know the Bible better and apply Biblical truths more consistently in our lives?

Joshua 1:9, Deuteronomy 4:1-2, Deuteronomy 6:1-9

Other than personal Bible reading and reflecting, what other ways have you tried or might you try to get to know more of the wisdom from the Bible as you seek to live out God's truths?

In the Bible, various metaphors are used to explain the impact God's truths can have on us. Let's read the following verses and identify the comparison used to describe the Bible.

Hebrews 4:12, Jeremiah 23:29, James 1:23, Psalm 119:105

What does each description communicate about how the Bible can impact our lives? Have you seen one or more of these descriptions at work in your life?

## **Wrapping Up:**

What is an application from what we read or discussed together that you would like to practice in the coming days? Is there anything that came up from this week's sermon or discussion that you would like prayer for? Is there anything else on your heart that you would like to express prayer for?