Your Perceived Greatest Need

Scripture:

Mark 10:51 John 5:5-6

<u>Mark 10:51 (NKJV)</u> 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."

<u>John 5:5-6 (NKJV</u>) Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time. He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?"

Introduction

It was Jesus only trip to Jericho. Within weeks He would be killed. It was the only time He would pass this way. Bartimeus would not have a second chance to meet Him. So he began to cry out to Jesus for mercy.

To this man who was obviously blind, Jesus addressed a very interesting question. The man could have had many requests of Jesus. Jesus did not presume that blindness was the problem. Instead he asked the question, "What do you want me to do for you?"

I. What is your greatest need?

<u>John 5:5-6 (NKJV</u>) Now a certain man was there who had an infirmity thirty-eight years. 6 When Jesus saw him lying there, and knew that he already had been in that condition a long time. He said to him, "Do you want to be made well?"

<u>Mark 8:36-37 (NKJV)</u> "For what will it profit a man if he gains the whole world, and loses his own soul? {37} "Or what will a man give in exchange for his soul?

- A. Are you taking care of your spiritual needs?
- B. Can you give a good account of your gifts and talents?
- C. If your greatest need is met, are you prepared to change?
- D. Are you willing to expose your greatest need to Jesus?

II. Why is this your greatest need?

Luke 19:41-44 (NKJV) Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, {42} saying, "If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things that make for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. {43} "For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, {44} "and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation."

- A. What is the purpose behind this need?
- B. Are you responding to the need or the purpose?
- C. Has this need brought you to Jesus?
- D. Can this need be met only by Jesus?

III. Guidelines for your request

<u>Matthew 7:7-8 (NKJV)</u> "Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. 8 "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it will be opened.

A. What are its implications for eternity?

<u>Matthew 6:19-20 (NKJV</u> "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust destroy and where thieves break in and steal; {20} "but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal.

B. Is this a need or a lust?

James 4:2-3 (NKJV) You lust and do not have. You murder and covet and cannot obtain. You fight and war. Yet you do not have because you do not ask. {3} You ask and do not receive, because you ask amiss, that you may spend it on your pleasures.

C. If God grants my request how will I use this blessing?

<u>**1** Corinthians 6:19-20 (NKJV</u>) Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? {20} For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.