

**Luke**  
**See Jesus**  
**“Seeing Like The Blind Man”**  
**Luke 18:35-43**

*Grace Fellowship Church / Pastor Peter LaRuffa / May 7, 2023*

**Luke 18:35-43** “As He drew near to Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. <sup>36</sup> And hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what this meant. <sup>37</sup> They told him, ‘Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.’ <sup>38</sup> And he cried out, ‘Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!’ <sup>39</sup> And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, ‘Son of David, have mercy on me!’ <sup>40</sup> And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to Him. And when he came near, He asked him, <sup>41</sup> ‘What do you want Me to do for you?’ He said, ‘Lord, let me recover my sight.’ <sup>42</sup> And Jesus said to him, ‘Recover your sight; your faith has made you well.’ <sup>43</sup> And immediately he recovered his sight and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.”

Reader: This is the Word of The Lord.

Response: **Thanks Be To God!**

**I. You need to know that nobody heals like Jesus did!**

**Luke 18:42-43** “And Jesus said to him, ‘Recover your sight; your faith has made you well.’ <sup>43</sup> And immediately he recovered his sight and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God.”

**5 Characteristics of Jesus’ Healing Ministry**

1. Jesus healed **instantly**.

**Luke 18:43** “And **immediately** he recovered his sight...”

2. Jesus healed **totally**.

**Luke 18:43** “And immediately **he recovered his sight and followed Him...**”

3. Jesus healed **everyone**.

**Luke 6:19** “And all the crowd sought to touch Him, for power came out from Him **and healed them all.**”

**Matthew 4:24** “So His fame spread throughout all Syria, and **they brought Him all the sick...and He healed them.**”

4. Jesus healed **organic disease**.

**Matthew 4:23** “And He went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.”

5. Jesus **raised the dead**.

a. Dead...as in a young man in a casket on the way to a graveyard (Luke 7:11-15).

b. Dead...as in a young girl whose death was apparent to all (Luke 8:49-55).

c. Dead...as in a man who had been dead for four days (John 11:14-44).

**II. You need to be like Jesus, and love people you find acceptable to reject.**

**Luke 18:38-40** “And he cried out, ‘Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!’ <sup>39</sup> And those who were in front rebuked him, telling him to be silent. But he cried out all the more, ‘Son of David, have mercy on me!’ <sup>40</sup> And Jesus stopped and commanded him to be brought to Him...”

A. As Christians, **we love our siblings in Christ** because they're our brothers and sisters.

**John 13:34-35** "A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. <sup>35</sup> By this all people will know that you are My disciples, if you have love for one another."

B. As Christians, **we love our neighbors** as ourselves.

**Matthew 22:35-39** "And one of them, a lawyer, asked Him a question to test Him. <sup>36</sup> 'Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?' <sup>37</sup> And He said to him, 'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. <sup>38</sup> This is the great and first commandment. <sup>39</sup> **And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.**'"

C. The real difference between Christians and non-Christians is this: **we love our enemies**.

**Luke 6:32-36** "If you love those who love you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. <sup>33</sup> And if you do good to those who do good to you, what benefit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. <sup>34</sup> And if you lend to those from whom you expect to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to get back the same amount. <sup>35</sup> But love your enemies, and do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return, and your reward will be great, and you will be sons of the Most High, for He is kind to the ungrateful and the evil. <sup>36</sup> Be merciful, even as your Father is merciful."

**Romans 12:19-21** "Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, 'Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord.' <sup>20</sup> To the contrary, 'if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head.' <sup>21</sup> Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good."

### III. **You don't need faith to be healed, but you do need faith to be saved!**

**Luke 18:42-43** "And Jesus said to him, 'Recover your sight; **your faith has made you well.**' <sup>43</sup> And immediately he recovered his sight and followed Him, glorifying God. And all the people, when they saw it, gave praise to God."

The Greek term for "healed" is *iaomai*, and that's not used in Luke 18:42. Instead, Luke uses the Greek term *sōzō* which refers to salvation!

**Luke 5:20** "And when He saw their faith, He said, 'Man, your sins are forgiven you.'"

**Ephesians 2:8** "For by grace you have been saved through faith..."

**Hebrews 11:6** "And without faith it is impossible to please Him, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that He exists and that He rewards those who seek Him."

#### **Questions for Personal Reflection and/or Community Group Discussion:**

1. Pastor Peter defined himself as a "charismatic with a seatbelt." What did he mean by that?
2. Review the **5 Characteristics of Jesus' Healing Ministry**. How do they differ from so many who claim to be healers in our day & age?
3. Pastor Peter listed 3 categories of people we're called to love. Sometimes we find it harder to love some more than others. Which category of people do you find it most difficult to love, or easiest to rationalize rejecting?
4. Of the 3 categories of people listed in Point II, why does "love for enemies" stand apart from the others?
5. Read Ephesians 2:8-9. When and how did the Lord give you the "gift" of saving faith? If you don't believe you have this faith, why not? What don't you believe Jesus is who He says He is, and did what He said He'd do?