

SURE & CERTAIN STEPS TOWARD THE HEALER

PART 2

A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS

Mark 10:46-52 **SLIDE x 3**

*Now they came to Jericho. As He went out of Jericho with His disciples and a great multitude, **blind Bartimaeus**, the son of Timaeus, sat by the road begging. ⁴⁷ And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁸ Then many warned him to be quiet; but he cried out all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" ⁴⁹ So Jesus stood still and commanded him [Bartimaeus] **to be called**. Then they [the followers] called the blind man, saying, "Be of good cheer. Rise, He is calling you."*

⁵⁰ And throwing aside his garment, **he rose and came to Jesus**.

⁵¹ 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."

⁵² Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.

We pointed out last week, that Jesus didn't go to Bart.

Jesus stood still and CALLED FOR BART TO COME TO HIM ...

PERSONALLY ...

AT THAT POINT, SOMETHING AMAZING HAPPENED IN BART'S HEART

➤ ***SLIDE*** **BART'S HEART AWAKENED IN FAITH UPON HEARING THE WORD OF CHRIST**

As soon as Bart heard the word of Jesus through the other believers ... calling him to Jesus Himself ... ***faith awoke in his heart*** causing him to -

(1) THROW AWAY HIS BEGGAR'S CLOAK

(2) JUMP TO HIS FEET and

(3) START HIS WALK TO A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS

This happened as a result of hearing ‘the word of Christ’.

Romans 10:17 Berean Literal Bible **SLIDE**

... Faith [rises out of] hearing and hearing through [a] word of Christ.

➤ **SLIDE BART NOW RESPONDS TO THE FAITH AWAKE IN HIS HEART**

Faith stirred in Bart’s heart at the hearing of Jesus command ...

And Bart abandoned to it ...

HE OBEYED ITS AUTHORITY

You see, we often hear The Word of Christ spoken to us in The Preaching and personally ... and faith LIGHTS UP our heart.

Psalms 119:130 NKJV, CSB

The entrance of your words brings light ...

It’s an awakening deep inside.

Faith lights up inside and brings to us -

EXPECTATION ... INSPIRATION ... MOTIVATION ... DEDICATION ... DETERMINATION ...

However, we have a choice as to whether to obey it or not ...

ONCE AGAIN ... WE HAVE TO RESPOND

- **BART RESPONDED TO THE PUBLIC PRESENCE OF JESUS**
- **BART NOW RESPONDS TO THE AWAKENING IN HIS HEART**

This is what caused him to throw away his beggar’s cloak ... jump to his feet ... and begin his life-changing walk to Jesus Himself.

OUR NEED IS TO SUBMIT TO THAT SENSE WE HAVE DEEP INSIDE

Romans 10:16 **SLIDE**

*But they have not all **obeyed** the gospel [message]. For Isaiah says, “LORD, who has believed our report [what we told them]?”*

'Obeyed' means TO COME UNDER WHAT YOU HEAR or submit yourself to what you hear.

hypēkousan) From hupo and akouo; to hear under ... to conform to a command or authority.

NB: The same word 'OBEY' is used in Matthew 8:27 when Jesus commanded the winds to be still and they obeyed His Voice.

THE PROBLEM:

We don't recognise it for what it is ... and we often dismiss it as just a nice feeling ...

IT IS SUCH A 'STILL SMALL VOICE' COMPARED TO THE LOUDNESS OF CLUTTER IN OUR HEAD.

*My name is true faith and I live in the light
I hear in the silence and shine in the night!
I rise deep within you, at the sound of His word
Far away from the voices that shout to be heard.
Chris Lambe*

**WE SUBMIT TO THE FAITH THAT IS RISING IN OUR HEART
AND THIS FAITH TAKES US TO CHRIST HIMSELF.**

Romans 10:16 Berean Study Bible **SLIDE**

... *Who has believed what we told them?*

- 'Who has **entrusted** [themselves] to our message?

➤ **SLIDE** **BART NOW ENTERS THE ETERNAL REALM OF FAITH**

This eternal realm was now awakened within Bart ... by the word of Jesus to him ...

'That faith' brought him into a realm where he could have a personal encounter with Jesus.

FAITH IS ETERNAL ... IT COMES FROM THE ETERNAL REALM & IT TAKES US INTO THE ETERNAL REALM ...

1 Corinthians 13:13 speaks of the 3 eternal things.

... *Faith ... Hope ... and Love ...*

I see faith inside us like a doorway that leads into the eternal realm

...

Like the cupboard from 'The Lion, The Witch & The Wardrobe'

At the word of Jesus 'calling for him', Bart entered into the realm of faith ... which caused him to -

cast aside his cloak in rejection

look up in inspiration

jump to his feet with a new motivation and

walk to Jesus with sheer determination

You see, we don't use faith for what we want ...

We are inspired, motivated and eternalised by Faith.

IS THERE AN ANSWER TO YOUR SITUATION?

YES THERE IS!

IT IS IN THE REALM OF FAITH AWAKENED IN YOUR HEART BY HEARING THE WORD OF CHRIST.

SURRENDER EVERYTHING TO IT ...

FAITH IS MEGA-POWERFUL – EVEN THOUGH IT IS SMALL

Matthew 17:20 Berean Literal Bible **SLIDE**

For truly I tell you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you can say to this mountain, 'Move from here to there,' and it will move. Nothing will be impossible for you.

SLIDE

THE SMALLEST SEED CAN FLING THE BIGGEST MOUNTAIN

NB: The non-believer cannot have this faith.

They can have a belief ... But it is not this faith.

Faith only exists in the born-again believer.

SLIDE BART HAS A PERSONAL ENCOUNTER WITH JESUS

***THE PRESENCE OF GOD PUBLICLY
LEADS TO THE PRESENCE OF GOD PERSONALLY***

Up till now, Bart had still not yet encountered Jesus Himself.

And neither had he heard Jesus' personal word to him.

*So many believers who have a great need, get this far. They are inspired, energised and motivated by the public presence of Jesus in the congregation and by His word through the believers ...
It is wonderful ...*

BUT THIS IS ONLY HALF-WAY FRIENDS ...

**WE ARE CALLED to a personal encounter with Jesus Himself
And to hear His word spoken to us for ourselves ...**

These believers, who were followers of Jesus, not only brought Jesus' word to Bart, but they **led Bart to Jesus ... for Bart to encounter Jesus for himself** – to hear Jesus for himself – and to receive from Jesus what he needed.

This is the test of true ministers of the Lord Jesus Christ. They will always direct you to **a personal encounter with Jesus Himself.**

All believers and ministers should lead you to Jesus and not to themselves. Anyone who doesn't lead you to Jesus is not a healthy minister of Jesus and is NOT walking in The Spirit.

Paul talked about false ministers leading people away as disciples to themselves ...

Acts 20:30 Berean Study Bible

Even from your own number, men will rise up and distort the truth to draw away disciples after them.

Acts 5:36-37 KJV

For before these days rose up Theudas, boasting himself to be somebody; to whom a number of men, about four hundred, joined themselves: who was slain; and all, as many as obeyed him, were scattered, and brought to nought.

NOW BART MEETS JESUS FACE TO FACE.

Even though Bart could not see Jesus, he knew he stood before Him. He was in Jesus' presence Personally and Privately.

What a privilege to stand before The Lord Jesus personally and privately ...

YOU HAVE BEEN SINGLED OUT OF THE CROWD & THIS MOMENT IS ABOUT YOU AND JESUS.

Not because you are worthy or wonderful ... but by Grace Alone.

SLIDE

➤ **BART HEARS JESUS' PERSONAL WORD TO HIM**

No longer was this word through others, but Bart heard Jesus' voice for himself.

NB: BART DIDN'T SPEAK FIRST

Bart was submitted to The Faith in His heart ... being led by The Holy Spirit ...

And The Spirit knows The Protocol ...

It's interesting when we pray ... we pray first without acknowledging who it is we are praying to ...

And our needs overwhelm us and are not confessed in faith.

However, faith waits ...

Faith holds back ...

Faith rises in our heart as we are in his presence ...

Faith waits for Jesus' word.

JESUS SPEAKS IN HIS TIME ...

As in all these steps ...

They have been instigated by Jesus -

- Bart responded to Jesus public presence
- Bart responded to Jesus word to him through the disciples
- Bart Now responds to Jesus personal word to Him – His spoken word – His voice ...

**THIS IS THE MOST CRITICAL POINT
THIS IS THE MOST POWERFUL THING**

**IMAGINE HEARING JESUS' VOICE SPEAKING TO YOU
PERSONALLY ...**

WE ARE NOT ONLY SEEKING HIS PERSONAL PRESENCE ...

WE ARE SEEKING HIS PERSONAL WORD TO US

THE POWER OF HIS VOICE

- Jesus just said to the winds and sea, 'Be Still', and they obeyed.

- Jesus spoke to Lazarus when he was dead and buried ... and Lazarus came to life and came out ...
- The Centurion said in **Matthew 8:8 (ESV)**
'Only say the word and my servant will be healed'

THIS ISN'T JUST A MAN SPEAKING ...
 THIS IS THE SON OF GOD SPEAKING WITH A HUMAN VOICE ...
 IT SHATTERS ALL BARRIERS ...
 IT BREAKS ALL CHAINS ...
 HIS VOICE EXISTS IN ALTERNATE DIMENSIONS ...
 HIS VOICE PENETRATES INTO THE SOUL ...
 HE SPEAKS TO US PERSONALLY ...

*I heard Jesus' personal word to me when I was unwell with cancer.
 It was His word to me that stayed with me and brought me to healing.*

BART HEARD JESUS' SPEAK ONLY TWICE

1. A REQUEST
2. A COMMAND

➤ BART HEARS JESUS FIRST WORD TO HIM

The first thing Bart heard from Jesus was –

Mark 10:51 **SLIDE**

So Jesus answered and said to him, "What do you want Me to do for you?"

Jesus often asked people questions that required them to confess.

For example: The Woman caught in Adultery - 'Woman, does no one accuse you?' (See John 8:10)

She needed to acknowledge the truth.

So Bart now has to expose to Jesus what his problem is ...

BART EXPOSES HIS NEED IN FAITH

Up until this point Bart wasn't in the right place to confess his need
 But now, walking in the realm of faith and standing before The
 Messiah, Bart declares his need, in faith, before Jesus.

This was not confessed out of emotion ... it was in faith.

This was not confessed out of desperation ... it was in faith.
This was not confessed out of frustration ... it was in faith.

THIS NEED IS EXPOSED IN THE FAITH REALM

HERE YOUR NEED IS EXPOSED TO THE LIGHT

THE NEED ... THE CONDITION ... THE DISABILITY ... THE AFFLICTION ... OR WHATEVER YOU MAY HAVE ... IN THIS PLACE & **AT JESUS BEHEST, IS EXPOSED BEFORE THE KING OF ALL LIGHT.**

This cowardly affliction has hidden in your flesh ... at a subterranean level ...
But here and now it is extracted and exposed to The Light ...

SLIDE CAN YOU SEE IT SQUIRM BEFORE HIM???

CONFESSING YOUR NEED HERE IS ALSO YOU HANDING IT OVER

We unintentionally hang on to our need. It becomes embedded in us ...

But here, friends, it is extracted as Jesus personal word undergirds us and gives us the power to let it go!

THE SQUIRMING NEED IS LEFT IN THE PRESENCE OF THE KING OF LIGHT WHO DECLARES, '**GO YOUR WAY**', (WITHOUT IT NOW) - *Inferring, leave it here with me ...*

I will take it ...

I am going to die for it and kill it forever ...

➤ **BART HEARS JESUS' WORD TO HIM A SECOND TIME**

Mark 10:52 **SLIDE**

Then Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus on the road.

Did you notice, WE ARE NOT TOLD THAT JESUS LAID HANDS ON BART?

There are many times Jesus touched people ...
But here He didn't ...

All Jesus had to do was to seal The Deal, to Pronounce Bart well ...

Coming into the faith realm he was already separated from the sickness ... and Jesus just ratified the deed done.

BART FOLLOWED JESUS IN FAITH

**BART WAS WITH JESUS ...
AND NOW BART STAYED WITH JESUS.**

This is the greater change ... the greater blessing ...
The healing was just a step to bring Bart to his real place ... to be a follower of Jesus ... to live in his presence ...

WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE HEALED ... SET FREE ... RESTORED?

Is it so you can just live a 'Normal Life'?

Or is it so you can live in Jesus' presence for the rest of your life?

Once you have had this personal encounter with Jesus ... once you've heard His word to you ... you'll never want to leave Him.

BART'S LIFE HAD CHANGED FOREVER

*THIS SHORT WALK IN FAITH CHANGED BART'S LIFE FOREVER ...
HE USED TO SIT BESIDE THE ROAD BEGGING (STUCK & GOING NOWHERE) –
NOW HE'S UPRIGHT WALKING ON THE ROAD WITH JESUS ... GOING
SOMEWHERE WITH PURPOSE.*