



The story of the King... who came to serve.

Part 24:

The Way Out Of
Spiritual Blindness
Mark Chapter 8 verses 22-26

Mark is using this story of the blind man as a bridge between spiritual blindness and spiritual sight.

There are 3 keys to understanding the story.

1. We are all _____.

- **This is a picture of the breadth of human blindness**
When you see the disciples still not getting it in vs. 1-21 and the religious leaders not getting it in vs. 22-24

Point: No one will be able to tell who Jesus really is, without divine intervention.

Jesus replied, "Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah, for this was not revealed to you by flesh and blood, but by my Father in heaven.

Matthew 16:17

- **this story of healing illustrates the severity of our blindness.**
Jesus asked, "Do you see anything?"²⁴ He looked up and said, "I see people; they look like trees walking around."²⁵ 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. Mark 8:23-25

Point: Spiritual blindness is so deep, that it requires a process to overcome.

An example from Peter right here in the story:

Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."

Mark 8:29b

Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns."

Mark 8:33

Point: Because overcoming spiritual blindness is a process; you must never feel impatient or superior to anyone else who doesn't believe or who believes less than you.

Point: Because overcoming spiritual blindness is a process; those that don't believe must understand that religion will never help you overcome the blindness.

2. What are we blind to?

On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?" 28 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."

Mark 8:27,28

Point: Jesus came to live the life you were created to live, but never will, and He came to die the death you would have died if He hadn't come in your place. He is God come to save you. This is the blindness the world needs to overcome.

Why does it take divine intervention to overcome that sort of spiritual blindness?

Because the claims of Jesus throw us into our greatest fear, our insufficiency to do anything about it. We are addicted to being sufficient.

To accept the claims of Jesus we have to admit we're

Third Key to the story:

3. How can we be healed?

- **Remember spiritual sight is a process**

Check out Paul's conversion compared to Peter's.

Jesus asked, "Do you see anything?" He looked up and said, "I see people; they look like trees walking around." Mark 8:23b,24

Point: The man admitted he wasn't seeing clearly.

"I don't see right, please help me to see better LORD."

In other words be dissatisfied with your level of spiritual sight and it will be alright, go to Him and confess you want to see more.

- **By living openly and honestly in community of faith.**
some people brought a blind man and begged Jesus to touch him. Mark 8:22

- **By the way of the cross**

33 At noon, darkness came over the whole land until three in the afternoon. 34 And at three in the afternoon Jesus cried out in a loud voice, "Eloi, Eloi, lema sabachthani?" (which means "My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?"). Mark 15:33,34