

**The Eyes of Faith**  
 Mark 8:22-26  
 February 15, 2026  
 Pastor Francis Bezzam

<sup>22</sup> And they came to Bethsaida. And some people brought to him a blind man and begged him to touch him. <sup>23</sup> And he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, “*Do you see anything?*” <sup>24</sup> And he looked up and said, “I see people, but they look like trees, walking.” <sup>25</sup> Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. <sup>26</sup> And he sent him to his home, saying, “*Do not even enter the village.*”

You ever wonder why Jesus said “*Blessed are your eyes, for they see*”? (Matthew 13:16). Wasn't it be obvious that they have eyes in order to see?

Well, not everyone who saw Jesus in person saw he was the Christ. Many kings and prophets desired to see Christ but could not. These early disciples saw Jesus because they were given spiritual sight that Jesus was the Christ. You are a disciple of Jesus because you have been given spiritual sight while you were still blind. You and I could not “see” Jesus as Christ by our own. How could we? We were dead in our trespasses and sins. (Ephesians 2:1). God made us alive and gifted us faith to see Christ! (Ephesians 2:8). God gave you the light of Christ. God gave you the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ! You know why the Gospel is glorious? Because, once you were blind, but now you see.

Paul is a great example of such conversion. He was once full of religious zeal as a Pharisee. One day, Jesus gave a revelation of himself to Paul. He was blinded for three days. And scales fell off his eyes. After that he saw Christ through eyes of faith. And his whole life changed. His conduct changed. He went from persecutor to being persecuted for faith in Christ.

Paul writes in Ephesians 1:18 “*having the eyes of your hearts enlightened, that you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance in the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power toward us who believe*”

Spiritual sight should be the reality of every believer.

And as a believer, what you see matters because your eyes are a gateway to your soul. Jesus taught that “*Your eye is the lamp of your body. When your eye is healthy, your*

*whole body is full of light, but when it is bad, your body is full of darkness” Luke 11:34*

You have been given eyes to behold beauty, amazement and glory not the meaningless and useless content the world wants you to consume. If you don’t guard your eyes from evil, there can be great harm done to your soul.

The Psalmist prayed in Psalm 27:4 *“One thing have I asked of the Lord: ...to gaze upon the beauty of the Lord”*

When Jesus redeemed you, He redeemed your eyes too. We want use our eyes for those things that will increase our faith. The currency of heaven is faith. Not money, not influence, not fame but faith!

What we see in this passage is the principle of faith in action. You can’t have small faith and expect big results. Little faith for a lot in return does not work in the Kingdom of God.

In the previous passage, Jesus warned the disciples of the leaven of the Pharisees. The Pharisees have eyesight but cannot perceive. Their eyes are blinded by their sin. And Jesus, now, is in Bethsaida north east of Capernaum. This the town of Philip, one of Jesus’ disciples. In Bethsaida a blind man is brought to Jesus. Here Jesus performs a two-stage miracle on this man. He struggles to see the first time and after his sight is restored, he sees everything.

Verses 22 through 23.

*<sup>22</sup> And they came to Bethsaida. And some people brought to him a blind man and begged him to touch him. <sup>23</sup> And he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, “Do you see anything?” <sup>24</sup> And he looked up and said, “I see people, but they look like trees, walking.”*

Notice, Jesus leads him out of the village. Why?

1. One - Jesus wants to give personal attention to his man.
  - a. When you and I were once blind to Christ, Jesus sought us, took us to himself and gave us eyes to see.
2. Two – Jesus does not want any unwanted publicity.

Jesus heals this man similar to how he healed the deaf and mute man in Mark 7 – with spit. Here he uses mud. This kind of healing is very similar to the healing of the blind beggar in John 9. Jesus did not need to use this method but perhaps he was condescending to their expectations.

When Jesus asks this man, “do you see anything?”, this man lifts up his eyes and sees

people not Christ.

The man's sight is restored but partially. He is able to see something but not clearly. He sees people walking like trees. What a strange way to see people but not the Christ who is right across from him. Nothing is said about this man seeing Jesus.

Jesus wants to give this man clear vision but he isn't seeing the important man he needs to see – his Savior.

So, Jesus touches his hands one more time.

Verse 25.

*<sup>25</sup> Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly.*

- Why does Jesus have to touch this man a second time? Is Jesus struggling to perform a miracle? No. Jesus could heal with just a word.
  - See Matthew's Gospel chapter nine - And as Jesus passed on from there, two blind men followed him, crying aloud, "Have mercy on us, Son of David."<sup>28</sup> When he entered the house, the blind men came to him, and Jesus said to them, "*Do you believe that I am able to do this?*" They said to him, "Yes, Lord."<sup>29</sup> Then he touched their eyes, saying, "*According to your faith be it done to you.*"<sup>30</sup> And their eyes were opened. Matthew 9:27-29
- So what does this two-state healing signify? Does this have anything to do with the blind man's measure of faith? Yes. It does. Faith is the key to his healing and redemption, to relief. Faith is the key to the life the Lord wants us to live by.

So, our Lord heals the blind man. He sees clearly.

Our Lord has one command before he goes his way.

Verse 26.

*<sup>26</sup> And he sent him to his home, saying, "Do not even enter the village."*

Jesus tells this man to go home and not be in the market square of the village.

Jesus led this man out of the village, away from the public eye to heal him.

And now, *after* he is healed, Jesus tells him to not go back into the village.

Why?

Jesus is not just a healer but the Christ! Jesus offers more than physical healing.

Jesus came to make us whole. How? By making himself un-whole, by taking on our sin on himself. Your spiritual wellness came at the expense of Jesus' own life given away for repentant sinners. In the rest of the Gospel of Mark, we are not going to see many miracles but more teaching from Jesus about his impending death. And the disciples find

it hard to understand about Jesus' death. So the two-stage healing is also symbolic of how the disciples understand partially about the Gospel until the Day of Pentecost perhaps.

Faith may be in stages but faith must go forward.

Whether it is restoring relationships, breaking addictions, healing broken marriages, welcoming children gone astray, faith in Christ is key.

How should we apply this passage to our lives?

*Jesus rebuked those who do not show enough faith when the situation demanded it.*

- When the disciples were afraid of dying when a storm was threatening their boat, Jesus said, "*Why are you so afraid? Have you still no faith?*" Mark 4:40
- When Jesus went to his hometown at Nazareth, he was very disappointed at their lack of faith. *And he could do no mighty work there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and healed them. And he marveled because of their unbelief. And he went about among the villages teaching.* Mark 6:5
- Jesus rebuked his disciples for their lack of faith after feeding five and four thousand people. They were still worrying about bread. *But Jesus, aware of this, said, "O you of little faith, why are you discussing among yourselves the fact that you have no bread?"* Matthew 16:8

*Jesus commended those who came to him in faith.*

- When Jesus saw the faith of the four men who brought the paralyzed man to Jesus, he commended them and forgave and healed. "*And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."* Mark 2:5
- When the woman who suffered with the issue of blood for twelve years came and touched Jesus' garment, Jesus said, "*Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."* Mark 5:34
- When a Roman centurion came to Jesus to seek healing for his servant, Jesus marveled at his faith and said to those who followed him, "*Truly, I tell you, with no one in Israel have I found such faith.*" Matthew 8:6
- When the Syrophenician woman came to Jesus to heal her daughter and Jesus seemed to offend her, she persisted and had faith in Christ. Jesus commends her *And he said to her, "For this statement you may go your way; the demon has left your daughter."* Mark 7:28  
*Then Jesus answered her, "O woman, great is your faith! Be it done for you as you desire."* Matthew 15:28

As we conclude this message, ask yourselves this question.

- Would the Lord approve of your walk of faith, and even commend your faith in him?

- Would the Lord look at our condition and remind us “O you of little faith?”
  1. If you are walking in a faith that our Lord would commend, then you can expect God’s blessing in your life.
  2. If you are lacking in faith, the early disciples came to Jesus with such a request. They said, “Lord, increase our faith”. And what did Jesus tell them? “*If you had faith like a grain of mustard seed, you could say to this mulberry tree, ‘Be uprooted and planted in the sea,’ and it would obey you.*” (Luke 17:5-6).
  3. Ask the Lord to turn your eyes to see great things of God and for God. “*Turn my eyes from looking at worthless things; and give me life in your ways.*” Psalm 119-37

----- Discipleship Questions-----

MESSAGE SUMMARY: The Eyes Of Faith. Mark 8:22-26

HEAD: These questions help you examine the truth of God's Word.

1. Read John 9:10-11, 25. Do you observe a parallel between the blind man's healing and salvation? Can you relate to your conversion experience? See Acts 9:18, 26:18, Hebrews 11:1, Matthew 18:16, John 20:29, 1 Peter 1:8.
2. HEART: These questions help you wrestle with what you believe.
  - Do you believe your eyes have been redeemed to behold wonderful and glorious things in God's world and Word? Go around and share.
  - What is God convicting you of and to believe in light of this message?

HANDS/HABITS: These questions help you bring the truth into your everyday life and develop behaviors that change your habits.

3. HEART For personal reflection: What will you do keep your eyes fixed on Christ and enjoy him?