

Mark 10:45-52

I know a pastor who is very humble and always serves others with love. He and his wife knew all the church members, about 200 of them, by name in a short time. They cared for the members. They prayed for me and my family always. I have an image of a good Jesus' follower and a humble servant whenever I think of him. Servanthood is one of the key themes in the book of Mark, and we are going to study it today. Let's read Mark 10:45-52.

Book of Mark is the second book in the New Testament. The author John Mark was not one of Jesus' disciples. Mark knew a lot about Jesus because it was likely Peter led Mark to conversion. Mark did travel with Paul and Barnabus in one of their missionary journals. This book covers the greatest number of miracles performed by Jesus in respects to the other gospel books. Miracles of healing and drive out evils are well documented in this book, and this passage is an example. The first verse of the first chapter of Mark starts with Jesus as the Son of God to bring the Good News of salvation. The main theme is Jesus came to serve us and save us because He loves us.

1) Serve with love

For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45). This verse summarized Jesus' purpose on earth, and summarized the content of this book. The first ten chapters are about Jesus came to serve, and the last 6 chapters are about His death for us. He is God but He came as a man not to be served which He deserves, but to serve us because He loves us. He has mercy on us. He saw the physical blind and healed him as an example. His actions demonstrated His love. Today, He cares about us in the same way as always. He provides our physical needs as well as cares about our spiritual conditions. He wants to save us from the evil and be united with Him again (Mark 8:35, Rom. 5:8).

2) Seek and see

Now, let's study the miracle on the blind man. A blind person in that society at that time belongs to the lowest rank. He can't find job and likely beg for living. He must be yearning to get his sight. The blind man sought Jesus because he

knew Jesus' power and mercy. He was physically blind but he was not spiritually blind. One might say he has great spiritual vision. Verse 48 described people were rebuking the blind man and didn't want him to be with Jesus. However, he shouted all the more, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" This shows his faith and eagerness. Are you eager to seek Jesus? Are you spiritually blind? Do you believe in Jesus' power and mercy?

Jesus always seeks you because He loves you (Rev. 3:20, Luke 19:10). The question is are you willing to open your heart, and seek and respond back? Seek and see spiritually is related in a way that the more you seek God, God will let you see more. In turn, you would like to seek God more.

3) Surrender to Christ

Jesus healed the blind man. "Go," said Jesus, "your faith has healed you." Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road (Mark 10:52). Jesus showed the crowd that He didn't have to perform any physical act to heal that blind man. If it is God's will, one can be healed by faith.

The other key point in this verse is his freedom. The blind man can see now. He can persuade financial gains and better living standard. God gives us freedom. Once we are saved, we have been set-free. Jesus said "go" to the blind man. He could walk away from God and went for his materialistic dream, but he chose to follow Jesus instead. Are you willing to surrender to Jesus and follow Him closely?

In summary, servanthood ties with love. One can't be a good servant unless he has love in his heart. We can follow Jesus' servanthood attitude. In humility, we can serve others with love. One can see your behavior like the pastor I know, and give glory to God. Furthermore, we have been saved by Jesus just like the blind man. Are you chasing your own dreams as the highest priority or follow Jesus as a good servant? One needs to surrender to Christ in order to have a deeper understanding and relationship with Him. Then, we can serve in a way that imitates Christ.