

# Desperate To See Him

Luke 18:35-43 & 19:1-8

[The Voice]

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## Luke 18:35-43 The Voice

35 Jesus is nearing the city of Jericho. A blind man is sitting there, begging by the roadside.  
36 He can hear the sounds of the crowd *accompanying Jesus*, and he asks what's going on.  
37 The crowd began to shout; Jesus of Nazareth is passing this way.  
38 Then the man starts shouting, Jesus, Son of *King David*, show mercy to me!  
39 The people in the front of the crowd reprimand him and tell him to be quiet, but he just shouts louder. Son of *King David*, show mercy to me!  
40 Jesus stops and tells the people to bring the man over to Him. The man stands in front of Jesus.  
41 Jesus asks the man, what do you want Me to do for you? The blind man replied, Lord, let me receive my sight.  
42 Jesus declared, receive your sight; your faith has made you well.  
43 At that very instant, the man is able to see. He begins following Jesus, shouting praises to God; and everyone in the crowd, when they see what has happened, starts praising God too.

## Luke 19:1-8 The Voice

1 Jesus enters Jericho and seems only to be passing through.  
2 Living in Jericho is a man named Zaccheus. He's the head tax collector and is very rich.  
3 He is also very short. He wants to see Jesus as He passes through the center of town, but he can't get a glimpse because the crowd blocks his view.  
4 So he runs ahead of the crowd and climbs up into a sycamore tree so he can see Jesus when He passes beneath him.  
5 Jesus comes along and looks up into the tree and there He sees Zaccheus. Jesus says, Zaccheus, hurry down from that tree because I need to stay at your house *tonight*.  
6 Zaccheus scrambles down and joyfully brings Jesus back to his house.  
7 Now the crowd sees this, and they're upset. The crowd began to grumble, Jesus has become the houseguest of this fellow who is a notorious sinner.  
8 Zaccheus exclaims, Lord, I am giving half of my goods to the poor, and whomever I have cheated I will pay back four times what I took.

### [POINT 1: BARTIMAEUS – DESPERATE TO SEE HIM! – LUKE 18:35-43](#)

Bartimaeus was just a poor blind beggar. But the one thing that Bart could see was that his life had no future and no hope unless something changed.. Bart was just sitting in the dirt on the side of the Jericho road with his tin cup in his hand, as he had done most every day of his life, when his keen ears picked up the sounds of excitement coming his way. He decided to risk an angry response from those surrounding him and began to ask what was happening? If Bart had listened to those around him, he would have missed his opportunity. Bart's situation was desperate.

### [POINT 2: ZACCHAEUS – DESPERATE TO SEE HIM! – LUKE 19:1-8](#)

Zacchaeus was a very wealthy social outcast, the chief tax collector hated by all those around him. Zack probably had no idea what was happening that day as he left his house headed for the office. The Bible said that Zack was a short little guy. Meaning, because of his short stature, he was unable to see over the thousands of people crowded in the streets. Then he remembered that just up the road was a Sycamore tree whose branches hung over the street and he knew that if he could make it to that tree, he would be able to see Jesus.

Zack's life was lonely. Zack's life was filled with one bad encounter after another. Zack realized that if he was ever going to change; if he was ever going to be able to find peace; he was going to have to find Jesus. Zack was desperate to see Jesus.

### **POINT 3: ARE YOU – DESPERATE TO SEE HIM?**

- Jacob wrestled with God until he received his blessing — he was desperate to see Jesus. [**Genesis 32**]
- The woman with the issue of blood pressed through the crowd to receive her healing — she was desperate to see Jesus. [**Luke 8**]

#### **Psalm 34:17-18** New Living Translation

- 17 The LORD hears his people when they call to him for help. He rescues them from all their troubles.**  
**18 The LORD is close to the brokenhearted; he rescues those whose spirits are crushed.**

#### **Matthew 5:6** New King James Version

- 6 Blessed *are* those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be filled.**

#### **1 Corinthians 15:6** New International Version

- 6 After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers and sisters at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.**

Jesus spoke with five hundred believers on one occasion.

#### **Luke 24:49** New International Version

- 49 I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.**

#### **Acts 1:4** New International Version

- 4 On one occasion, while he was eating with them, he gave them this command: “Do not leave Jerusalem, but wait for the gift my Father promised, which you have heard me speak about.**

Jesus gave them instructions not to leave the city until they received a gift from heaven.

#### **Acts 1:15** The Passion Translation

- 15 During this time Peter stood up among the 120 believers who were gathered and said,**

What happened to the other 380 people? Were they just not that desperate for him?

#### **Isaiah 55:1-13** New Living Translation

- 1 Is anyone thirsty? Come and drink—even if you have no money! Come, take your choice of wine or milk—it's all free!**  
**6 Seek the LORD while you can find him. Call on him now while he is near.**  
**7 Let the wicked change their ways and banish the very thought of doing wrong. Let them turn to the LORD that he may have mercy on them. Yes, turn to our God, for he will forgive generously.**

Will you desperately cry out to capture His attention? Will you do something out of character, climb a tree, just to capture His attention? If you dare to do this, He may just open your eyes and invite Himself to be in your presence.