

Getting Heaven's Attention

- I. **Cornelius' offerings of prayer and gifts to the poor (Acts 10:1-5)**
 - A. Cornelius gave generously and gave regularly despite a massive cultural and religious divide.
 - B. This was love—love for God and love for others. What revelation he had, God multiplied (Mark 4:24-25).

- II. **Acts of extravagant love and worship**
 - A. Mary of Bethany (Mark 14:3-9) Mary is remembered today wherever the gospel is preached.
 - B. The “sinful” woman who anointed Jesus with perfume and oil (Luke 7:44-50)
 - C. Paul and Silas (Acts 16:25-31)
 - D. The widow's secret offering (Mark 12:41-44; I Kings 17:7-16)
 - E. Getting the attention of the one who sees and rewards in secret (Matthew 6:1-4)

- III. **Returning to say “Thank you!” (Luke 17:15-19)**

- IV. **The cry for mercy (Hebrews 4:16)**
 - A. Blind Bartimaeus—“Jesus stopped” (Mark 10:46-52).
 - B. The “unclean” woman—“Who touched my clothes?” (Mark 5:24-34)
 - C. The story of Jonah (Jonah 2:4-7, 10)

- V. **Shameless, audacious faith (Luke 11:5-9)**
 - A. The woman who wouldn't take “No” for an answer. “For such a reply...” (Mark 7:24-30).
 - B. The faith of the centurion. Jesus “was amazed.” “I have not found anyone in Israel with such great faith” (Matthew 8:5-13).
 - C. Hezekiah's complaint...“I have heard your prayer and seen your tears; I will heal you” (II Kings 20:1-6).

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