

Shouting Louder!

As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind beggar was sitting beside the road. When he heard the noise of a crowd going past, he asked what was happening. They told him that Jesus the Nazarene was going by. So he began shouting, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" "Be quiet!" the people in front yelled at him. But he only shouted louder, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" (Luke 18:35-38)

Are you shouting louder? One of the key aspects to encounter with Jesus is expectation. Asking the questions: Do I truly believe in the one who can answer me? Do I believe that Jesus has the power to come into our reality?

Scriptures are replete with stories of how people came to Christ and asked him to do something new either for themselves or someone else. Luke tells us it was the blind man's shout to Jesus that drew Jesus' attention.

Is there something that you want Jesus to do? Then follow scriptures advice; 'Call to me and I will show you remarkable secrets about things to come.' (Jeremiah 33:34:2-3) What is your need? What do you want to see? What secrets or desires are you wanting to see manifest in 2019? Scripture tells us to 'delight ourselves in Him, and he will give us the desire of our hearts' (Psalm 37:4). For the blind beggar, it was healing.

"Lord," he said, "I want to see!" And Jesus said, "All right, receive your sight! Your faith has healed you." Instantly the man could see, and he followed Jesus, praising God. And all who saw it praised God, too. (vs. 41-43)

As Christians, our prayer lives are intertwined with faith and 'expectation' and to some extent, the Bible teaches us that one impacts on the other. I can only imagine what the blind man was thinking when ushered to the King of the Universe? How much had he gone through waiting on the side of the road? What level of trust did it really take to shout louder? Each of us have differing levels of trust and expectation. My hope and prayer is that we all press towards seeing God do something 'new' as we shout louder saying, "I want to see!"

As you approach this season of prayer, let your expectations and faith run wild. Then you will see the Son of David and bring him new levels of praise.

Rev Nathan McConnell is Pastor of Downfield Mains Church, in Dundee, Scotland