

A Second Touch

22. They came to Bethsaida, and some people brought a blind man and begged Jesus to touch him. 23. He took the blind man by the hand and led him outside the village. When he had spit on the man's eyes and put his hands on him, Jesus asked, "Do you see anything?" 24. He looked up and said, "I see people; they look like trees walking around." 25. Once more Jesus put his hands on the man's eyes. Then his eyes were opened, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. 26. Jesus sent him home, saying, "Don't go into the village. " - Mark 8:22-26

The Gospel of Mark

Powerful Life-Changing Stories – 31 people transformed

Transformed Lives

1. John Mark - Mark 1 "Lessons from a Failure" - Mark's Muffed Ministry
2. John the Baptist: - Mark 1:2-14 "Prepare the Way"
3. Destined Disciples: - Mark 1:14 "Life Worth the Wager" - Betting it all
4. Possessed Man: - Mark 1:21 "Loosed from bondage" - Every man's battle
5. Mother-in-law: - Mark 1:30 "Useful Again" - Throw mama from the train
6. The Untouchable Leper: Mark 1:40 "Lonely People Need the Lord" –
7. "Simon the Cyrene": - Mark 15:21 - "Simon Says"
8. A Little Boy's Lunch: - Mark 6:30 "Giving What You've Got"
9. Widow's Mite: - Mark 12:41 "Missed Opportunities"
10. Alabaster Box: - Mark 14:1-11 "Wasted on Jesus"
11. Desperate Housewives – Mark 7:24
12. A Second Touch – Mark 8:22-26

Introduction:

(ie) The Instant Gratification Culture

Bethsaida

Alone: Led Him Outside of Town –something private, personal

Anointed: Spit on His Eyes – something odd

Laid hands on him – something comforting

Laid hands on him again – something needed

The Second Touch

Mark 8:22-29; Blind Man, Mark 10:46; , Mark 14:27-72 Peter's Need

The Place, People & Context

Bethsaida: Where?

Why did Jesus spit on his eyes?

1. The Man's Need

✂ Blind man, led by others? **Helpless**

Praying for other people. Bring to Jesus.

✂ Others "begged" for him.- **Desperate**

Prevailing Prayer – persistence, reasoning, continuance,

✂ Ask, Seek, Knock – Matthew 7:7, Luke 11:9, **Persistent**

Man's extremity is God's opportunity – opens a window

"Never say never again" – God has another way.

No glasses, eye drops, laser surgery, cataract surgery

2. The Master's Touch

"Different strokes for different folks." – Jesus did strange things

✂ **Alone** with Jesus – Led him out of the city

✂ **Spit** on his eyes – Will you let Jesus spit on your eyes - anoint

✂ **Laid** (Put) His hands on him – lay hands on

3. The Masterful "Second Touch"

Second Touch

If at first you don't succeed, try, try again.

✂ **Asked** – "Do you see anything?"

✂ **Answer** – "See men as trees walking."

✂ His eyes were opened

✂ His sight was restored

✂ He saw clearly

Rev. 3:17 eyesalve (kollourion; collyrium; Rev 3:18):
A Phrygian powder mentioned by Galen, for which the medical school of Laodicea seems to have been, but the figurative reference is to the restoring of spiritual vision.

Every miracle begins with an impossibility

Dashed Hopes – Disappointment with God.

"When God wants to do an impossible thing He takes an impossible man and crushes him." – Alan Redpath

(ie) Winston Churchill Speech

(ie) Alive

(ie) Into Thin Air

(ie) Touching the Void

(ie) Joni Eareckson Tada

(ie) Rubber Tree Plant

(ie) 1986 World Series

(ie) Dave Draveky

(ie) Rudy Ruettiger – Notre Dame

(ie) Field of Dreams - "moonlight" Graham

Conclusion:

James 5:14

Come! – Call for Elders
Anoint & Lay hands on
Call on – Pray continually, fast and pray

Your Place, Your Need, Your Touch

We all need a second touch time and time again.

When weary, worried, restless, troubled, tormented, discouraged, tired, overwhelmed, sad, depressed, broken, wounded, hurting, sick, cold, backslidden, lost first love.

James 5:13-17

13. Is any one of you in trouble? He should pray. Is anyone happy? Let him sing songs of praise. 14. Is any one of you sick? He should call the elders of the church to pray over him and anoint him with oil in the name of the Lord. 15. And the prayer offered in faith will make the sick person well; the Lord will raise him up. If he has sinned, he will be forgiven. 16. Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous man is powerful and effective. 17. Elijah was a man just like us. He prayed earnestly that it would not rain, and it did not rain on the land for three and a half years.

Come To Jesus

Come To Jesus (Untitled Hymn)

by Chris Rice

Weak and wounded sinner
Lost and left to die
O, raise your head, for love is passing by
Come to Jesus. Come to Jesus.
Come to Jesus and live!

Now your burden's lifted
And carried far away
And precious blood has washed away the stain, so
Sing to Jesus. Sing to Jesus.
Sing to Jesus and live!

And like a newborn baby
Don't be afraid to crawl
And remember when you walk
Sometimes we fall...so
Fall on Jesus. Fall on Jesus.
Fall on Jesus and live!

Sometimes the way is lonely
And steep and filled with pain
So if your sky is dark and pours the rain, then
Cry to Jesus. Cry to Jesus.
Cry to Jesus and live!

O, and when the love spills over
And music fills the night
And when you can't contain your joy inside, then
Dance for Jesus. Dance for Jesus
Dance for Jesus and live!

And with your final heartbeat
Kiss the world goodbye
Then go in peace, and laugh on Glory's side, and
Fly to Jesus. Fly to Jesus
Fly to Jesus and live!