

# The Miracles of Jesus Part 10

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C. Elijah Bronner: Anytime you going after something that's worthwhile, there are going to be things that discourage you, both inward and outward.

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And now for 7825, "The Miracles Jesus Part 10."

C. Elijah Bronner: Thank you for joining Brothers of The Word because brother you need the word.

We welcome all of you joining us by television and those of you joining us online at BrothersofTheWord.com or Facebook Live, always a wonderful delight and joy to have you to tune in and join us. I would like to share just a little humor. As the storm raged, the captain realized his ship was sinking fast. He called out, he said, "Anyone here know how to pray?" A pastor stepped forward, he said, "Captain, I know how to pray." "Good," said the captain. "You pray while the rest of us put on our life jackets because we are one short."

Well, I want to look at a scripture over in the Gospel of Mark. Gospel of Mark Chapter 10. Mark Chapter 10, I want to read Verses 46 through 52. The Gospel of Mark Chapter 10 Verse 46 through 52. When you get there say, "Amen."

Beginning with Verse 46, Chapter 10 Verse 46. "And they came to Jericho: and as he went out of Jericho with his disciples and a great number of people, blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus sat by the highway side begging. And when he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say, Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And many charged him that he should hold his peace: but he cried the more a great deal, Thou Son of David, have mercy on me. And Jesus stood still, and commanded him to be called. And they call the blind man, saying unto him, "Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee. And he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus. And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight. And Jesus said unto him, Go thy way; thy faith hath made

thee whole. And immediately he received his sight, and followed Jesus in the way.

We're talking about the Miracles of Jesus; this is Part 10. The Miracles of Jesus and we've been going through the four gospels looking at different miracles that Jesus performed in his earthly ministry, and we've been simply gleaning from them pulling truths and principles, applications that we can apply to our lives. There are some wonderful truths in all of these accounts.

So, we're looking at this one, here at the Miracles of Jesus Part 10. I want you to notice in Verse 46 that Bartimaeus who was blind, he was blind and he was also begging, so, he wasn't able to work and so he had to beg for a living. And so, he just happened to be positioned right in the place where Jesus would be coming by.

Now, that speaks to us to put yourself in position. You need to know where the outgoings of God are. Where His outgoings are. Put yourself in position to be in God's presence, in other words. Put yourself in position of where are His outgoings.

Well, His outgoings are in faith, His outgoings are in prayer, His outgoings are in His Word, His outgoings are in worship. His outgoings are when you are with other believers, His outgoings are wherever there's expectancy for Him, where there's expectancy in faith and belief.

So, you have to put yourself in places where the outgoings of God is located. So, that's what this beggar did. He was situated -- he just happened to be in the place where Jesus was exiting Jericho and he was in a place of his outgoing.

So, we're able to put our self in place of his outgoings; by fasting, by seeking him; you have to put yourself in the presence of God, in other words. You can't just run with the world if you expect to be touched by God.

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Okay, you have to put yourself in the outgoings. Put yourself where He is going to be travelling through. Put yourself where the spirit of God is going to flow. Put yourself in the presence of

God. So, put yourself in Godly places where the presence and the spirit of God will be flowing.

Put yourself, put yourself, put yourself, so that's why we tell people to come and God heals because you put yourself in an atmosphere, put yourself in a place where healing flows, where there's a demand on the anointing, where the spirit of God is worshipped, and he moves and where the elder is going to lay, so you put yourself in the outgoings of his presence and that's what we glean from here.

Now we also learn here -- now, Bartimaeus was blind. He was blind, so he could not see but out of this John Wooden said, he says, "Don't let what you cannot do interfere with what you can do."

He couldn't see but he could hear; he could hear. Now, in one account, this account is actually covered by Matthew, Mark, and Luke. In one account, it says that Bartimaeus heard the commotion of the crowd and he asked, he inquired, he was inquisitive. He started asking questions. Now, notice this, he couldn't see but he could hear and because he could hear, he also became inquisitive.

He started asking question. He lets us know, ask questions, be inquisitive, be willing to learn, find out, never lose your curiosity. When one of his senses was not working; the sense of sight, that was not working in his life but his other senses were magnified. And you'll find that people that are blind, you could find that they can hear better than other people can hear.

And so, a lot of times when one of our senses is not functioning, another of our senses become much keener. And so, if you don't have something in life, there is something else you have that's keener. There is something you have, and so don't allow what you don't have to interfere of what you do have. Don't allow what you can't do to interfere with what you can do.

And so, he keened in on his keenest of hearing. He heard commotion of the crowd, the multitude. He knew something was going on. Now, watch this, he couldn't see but he borrowed the eyes of others. He asked him "Hey, what's going on out there?" They let him know Jesus was coming by.

Notice that, he used eyes of others; so, use what's around you. If you don't have something, find somebody around you who has it. If you can't do something, find somebody around you who can do it. There's always a way, there's always something, there's always resources. There's always something. So, either God turns up other areas in your life when you have a deficiency in one area, he calls other areas in your life to be keener; use those areas.

Go to where your strengths are and that's what Bartimaeus did, he relied on his ears. He relied on the sight of others, he was inquisitive, he asked questions. And so, Bartimaeus did a lot, so that's a whole lot to think about there. Never let what you don't have interfere with what you do have or what you can't do, don't let it interfere with what you can do.

Turn to your neighbor and say, "Do what you can. Use what you have." And that's what we learned from Bartimaeus.

Now, here's another thing, once you heard it was Jesus, he didn't ask any more questions. Once he heard it was Jesus passing by, questions stopped. He didn't ask who's with Jesus. He didn't ask is Jesus in a rush. He didn't ask where is Jesus going. Once, he heard that it was Jesus, all questions asked and here's a principle we learned; you have to seize the opportunity.

He knew he had a short time, you seize the moment, seize the day. You have to move now. The Bible says, "Now, is the accepted time." Now is the time of salvation. You have to move right now. You have to seize the moment. You seize the opportunity.

Some scholars believe that Jesus never passed by Jericho again; this was Bartimaeus only chance. This was his only chance. This was his only chance. He didn't know when Jesus would ever pass through Jericho again and he was not about to miss his opportunity. Don't miss your opportunities. Seize your opportunity, seize the moment.

Turn to your neighbor and say, "Seize the moment. Seize the opportunity. Seize the opportunity." A lot of times (00:09:47) opportunity, I remember we were in Houston and we were at Joel Osteen's church, courtesy of Ms. Suzanne. And Ms. Suzanne got us front row seats. We were front and center at Joel Osteen's

church. And Joel Osteen was sitting on one side; we were sitting on the other side.

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We were sitting on the other side. And so, during praise and worship, Joel was just out and praising and doing the welcome. He was out shaking hands. So, Pastor James say, "Let's go up and meet Joel." He said, "This is our opportunity." I said no. I said, "No, (00:10:14) to meet Joel." I said, "We're catching up to service." And say, "He will be around after service. We can meet Joel after service." Man, after service, Joel was gone. And that taught me a lesson, you got to seize the moment. You got to seize the opportunity. Pastor James saw the opportunity, Joel was just shaking hands doing the welcome and we missed that moment.

Now, Sister Yvette ended up in a very lucky spot. She sat right next to Joel. So, she had an opportunity to meet Joel. And she looked at us and grinned. But you got to be willing to seize the opportunity. Seize the moment while you have. There are so many things that come by and they have a short window of opportunity. You got to do it while you can. You got to seize it while it's there. And so, this was the case in Bartimaeus, he didn't know when Jesus would ever pass by Jericho again and he, man, bless God, he was not going to miss his chance. He was not going to miss his chance. So, that lets you know, any time you're fearful about something or you're waiting on something, man, you'll never know this is your one shot.

You never know if the window of this opportunity is going to be gone forever. So, don't ever procrastinate. Don't ever put things off. Do it now. Do it now. Do it now. If you're going to call your momma to tell you love her, call her now. Call her now. If you're going to forgive somebody, forgive them now. You don't know you have an opportunity at this time. Seize the opportunity. Seize the moment. Tomorrow's promise to no man, so take the day and seize the day and make the most of the days. Make the most of your opportunity. So, don't let any opportunity pass you. Seize it. Grab it. And we learned this from blind Bartimaeus. He heard Jesus was going by. He wasn't going to miss this opportunity. He wasn't going to miss, so he seized it.

Now, here's some other things we learn in Verse 48, we learn the example. He gives us the example of what the Bible calls

importunity. Importunity is what the Bible calls. Importunity means shameless persistence, means shameless insistence. It means that you are asking, you're pleading without yielding. It's an unyielding, pleading and request. You just won't stop. You won't give up. You won't take no for answer. You won't listen to anything or anybody.

My little girl, a couple of weeks ago, I picked her up from school and she loves to go to Starbucks. I generally take her to Starbucks about once a week because she loves to get a sandwich and one of the drinks they have there. And I picked her up from school one day and she said, "Can we go to Starbucks?" And I was kind of slow in responding. I was like, I said, "Daddy, got some snacks at home. I got some stuff I can put together." She said, "Please, Daddy, please, please, please, please, please!" She said, "Please, please, please, please, please, please. Can we go to Starbucks?" The next thing I know, I was pulling up at Starbucks." I didn't have the heart. I can't even get in. She won't even let me get a word in to explain why we couldn't go. Next thing I know, I was pulling in at Starbucks. I couldn't compete with that.

There was no competition with that. She said, "Please, please, please, please, please, please, please!" I had no defense for it. Next thing I knew I pulling into Starbucks, paying \$18 at the counter, scratching my head like what in the world am I doing here? Shameless insistence or persistence. That was importunity is. That's what Bartimaeus had. And so, we are reminded here in this account, the Bible reminds us of this important principle of importunity. The shameless persistence that you won't take no for an answer. You won't give up. You won't cave in. You will not quit. It also shows us that anytime you're going after that's worthwhile, they're going to be things to discourage you, both inward and outward.

So, sometimes your own thoughts, your own insecurities, your own fears, your own objection, there are going to be other voices from the outside telling you can't do it, you're not qualified. And so, you're going to be discouraged from without and from within. And all of that's a test. All of that's a test to see how bad you really want it. All of that's a test to see if you're willing to go all the way through this thing. And so, you're going to be tested. Anytime you're trying to do something worthwhile, Bartimaeus was tested because the first time he yelled out, he said, "Jesus,

have mercy on me. Oh, Lord, have mercy on me.” The first time he did it, he said, “Shut up. Be quiet, man. This is not the time or the place for that.” They shut him up.

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And the Bible says, “As they shut him up, he got louder. Have mercy Jesus! Have mercy! Have mercy!” The more they try to shush him down, the louder he got. He won’t going to let them shut him up because I’m going to tell you this, the people who were trying to shut him up, they could see, he couldn’t see. And what he wanted was to be able to see and he won’t going to let them shut him up from his miracle. So, the Bible is illustrating this. I learned my all of the miracles I’ve told so far, there’s one principle that I have been seeing over and over and over that God really loves, God loves tenacity. God loves tenacity. God loves determination. God loves somebody that when the odds are against them, they will keep going. They will keep scratching. They will keep calling. They won’t give up. They won’t take no for answer. They will find a way. They keep pressing.

Every miracle we have looked at, that’s one trait I see over and over and over again. Last week, we talked about the man who broke open the roof, same thing. These were people that had objections, people who had discouraging things, but they wouldn’t let it stop them. And so, this is the powerful principle here. This principle of importunity. This principle of tenacity, pro tenacity, this being tenacious, being determined, having perseverance, being willingness, stick it out. And saying that you’re going to be discouraged whenever you try to do something. You’re going to be discouraged. There’s always going to be somebody in the crowd to try to throw you off. Always going to be somebody to try to discourage you. And so, that’s what this account is showing us that criticism is the price you pay when you decide to go beyond mediocrity.

Criticism is a price you pay when you decide to go beyond mediocrity. The only way to avoid criticism is to do nothing. That’s the only way to avoid it. Anytime you’re doing anything worthwhile, you will be criticized. So, this account is letting us know, man, be willing to stand out in the crowd. Bartimaeus stood out, the man who came through the roof stood out. The woman who tested him off his garment, she stood out. These were all crowd stoppers. These were all people, Jesus was always

captivated by somebody who did something that was daring. Someone said that if you do something that's not daring, you have done nothing. So, (00:17:33) be daring, man, be bold. Favor fortunes the bold and Bartimaeus was bold in his cry. He was bold when they told him to shut up. He got louder and that got Jesus' attention to the point where the Bible says, "Jesus stood still."

Now, Jesus was walking at a pretty good pace because that's why Bartimaeus heard the crowd. He heard a rustling of the crowd. He was moving pretty quickly. Jesus was moving quickly, but when he heard the loud cry of have mercy on me oh Lord, thou Son of David. The Bible says Jesus stood still, stopped him in his tracks. He knew that this was not average. This was not normal. Here's a cry of desperation. Here's a cry of somebody who's desperate, who's somebody who's tenacious. Somebody who won't give up and somebody who don't care what the crowd thinks. They don't care what other people think. They do not move. They're not bound by the approval syndrome of others. And so, you have to be able to get above the crowd and beyond the crowd, anytime you're trying to achieve anything in life.

I read something that's pretty interesting. Let me read this little poem called "Wanted." It says, "Wanted. More to improve and fewer to disapprove. More doers and fewer talkers. More to say it can be done and fewer to say it's impossible. More to inspire others and fewer to throw cold water on them. More to get into the thick of things and fewer to sit on the sidelines. More to point out what's right and fewer to show what's wrong. More to light a candle and fewer to curse the darkness. And so, that's what you find. That's what we need. We need people that are encouraging, not tear you down, not discouraging. We need people to lift you up, not pulling you down."

I read this up a little thing and I substituted the crowd in there because I saw what the crowd trying to do to him, Bartimaeus. And so, I substituted the crowd into this. Listen to this, it says, "Believe when the crowd doubts. Learn while the crowd loathes. Decide while the crowd delays. Begin while the crowd procrastinates. Work while the crowd wishes. Save while the crowd spins. Listen while the crowd talks. Smile while the crowd scowls.

Command while the crowd criticizes. Persist while the crowd quits. Study while the crowd is sleeping. Work while the crowd is loathing. Prepare while the crowd is playing. Dream while the crowd is wishing. So, you have to always go opposite the crowd. Stand out, God wants us to stand out from the crowd, stand out from the crowd.

It always got Jesus' attention. Somebody who did something, who was bold, somebody who did something that was unusual, somebody who has some tenacity and gumption. I just love it. Jesus loves those kinds of people. Then they got Jesus' attention. And so, here is somebody who made Jesus stop.

He couldn't see but he made Jesus stop. Praise God. He couldn't see but he sure could talk. He can yell. He used what he had. You have to use what you have. He couldn't see but he can yell. He can yell so once again, becomes one of his senses was impaired, he was probably louder than anybody else.

So, his vocal chords were stronger than everybody else because he couldn't see. So, the body compensates. So, when you have one sense is down, you have other senses that are stronger. So, he had a stronger sense, a stronger perception. He had a stronger communication. So, he has stronger hearing and so, he was stronger and to use what he had. He used what he had. He used what he had. Don't be worried about the crowd, what people say or what people think. The crowd also represents fear and it represents doubt and unbelief.

Don't let the crowd, don't let fear, doubt and unbelief stop you. John Mason says, "Let go of whatever makes you stop." You're on a worthwhile journey. You're on a worthwhile pursuit of something. Let go of whatever makes you stop, whether it's excuses, whether it's blaming others, whether it's bad things happening, whether it's the problems or difficulty, let go of whatever makes you stop.

Anything that stops you from becoming the person that you can become, you desire to become, who God created you to become, let go of anything that makes you stop. There are going to be sometimes, this illustration also says to us there are going to be times on your life where you would be the only person that believes. Do you have enough gumption? Do you have enough

guts? Do you have enough courage to be the only one that believes when the crowd doesn't?

There are going to be times you're going to be isolated, you're going to be isolated sometimes, where it's going to be only you, only you will believe. You cannot delegate your believing. You can't delegate your dreaming. There are going to be some times that only you are able to care of this. Will you be able to stick it out and persevere, can you do it even when no one else believes you?

You'd be surprised of the great things that have been done in this world because one person believed it. One person believed it. Had to be just one person that believed that we can fly airplanes. Had to be one person that believed that we could do heart transplants. Had to be one person that believed that we could talk by telephone. Had to be one person that believed that we could drive a car and not be just on horses. Had to be one person to believe that you could have the Internet, iPod, telephone, all in a palm of your hand. Had to be one person that believed.

And so, are you able to be the one to have a conviction so strong, that even when the crowd sneers, quiets you, are you able to persevere and hold on to a dream because there will be times where we'll be required and we'll be the only ones.

I like something that Henry Wadsworth Longfellow said. He says, "Not in the clamor of the crowded streets not in the shouts or plaudits of the throng, but in ourselves, are triumph and defeat." It's in us. It's not in the crowd. It's in us. You have to determine whether or not you're going to make it within you and you have to believe it and you have to be willing to stand alone at times even when no one else believes.

Praise God. Praise God. Man, where'd the time go? Where'd the time go? Man, when you're having fun, time just flies by, doesn't it? Oh, my goodness. Oh, my goodness. Oh, my goodness, man. But there are so many powerful things. I'm going to probably do part two of this because blind Bartimaeus teaches us, he teaches us some powerful things. He teaches us some powerful things so I don't want to have to cram it all down your throat in one setting. I'll bring it back and probably do part two of this. But he shows us that we don't have to stay in the same condition. This is what

blind Bartimaeus shows us. We don't have to stay in the same condition.

That's the good news. We don't have to stay in the same condition. We can decide. We can act. We can decide and we can act.

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This is what Bartimaeus did. He wanted to change his condition. He decided. He acted. Faith is an act. Faith is an act. Faith is an act.

And so, this was what Bartimaeus did. This is what he did. Praise God. I'll probably finish up. Next time I finish up Bartimaeus and then we may start another miracle. We'll have miracles rolling over on top of miracles. We have miracles rolling over on top of miracles.

The Holy Spirit told me that one time, he said, "You don't have to complete the whole miracle in one session." He said, "You can get over (00:25:39) one. Finish that one and start a new one." I said, "Alright Holy Ghost, that sounds good." And so, that's what we're going to do. Man, we're not confined to one miracle. The Bible is furnished with miracles because we serve a miracle working God.

The power of God is present to do miracles in our days, in our time, in among us and with us and in us and for us and through us. And so, we're just studying Jesus as he did him so that we can walk in. Stand on your feet, let's pray. Father, we love you, we praise you. Thank you for your miracle wonder working power in our midst. Thank you, Lord, for giving us a decision to decide and to act and to change our lives. We thank you that the miracle working power of God is present and active and operative, waiting to be released and used in our lives. We thank you Lord for bringing us up and changing us and taking us to a new level. We thank you for allowing us to use these principles, Lord, to better our lives and so that we can help others as well. We thank you for faith and we thank you for Jesus, and we thank you for the Holy Spirit and we thank you for your word, we love you and praise you. This in Jesus name we pray, let every heart say, Amen. Amen. Amen.

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