

Life group outline

The Desire Of Your Heart (1)

Group Members Reading: Proverbs 13:12; Psalm 78:41; John 10:10; Isaiah 49:8; James 5:14; Psalm 34:18; Matthew 6:6; Exodus 22:26; Psalm 37:4; 1 Peter 5:7.

2018 is our year to proclaim that we will reclaim what the enemy has stolen! We have that promise from God, but it comes with an "IF"! We must begin to become pro-active in our desire to see God move on our situation this year.

The new series, "The Desire Of Your Heart", will dive deep into your life to help you reclaim all those hopes and dreams that have alluded you. The foundational verse used to begin this quest is found in Proverbs.

Proverbs 13:12, "Hope deferred maketh the heart sick: but when the desire cometh, it is a tree of life."

Hope, is used here to describe our dreams and desires, hopefully Godly. Desire can mean, "a longing, want, pleasure or something you strive for", it can also have a negative meaning, "greed and lust"! This sermon focuses on the Godly good desires that have been delayed, lost, stolen or simply have died.

The word "deferred" means, "delayed, an extended wait or prolong delay".

So, tonight, we focus on a hope that has been deferred, and that delay has affected your emotions - the heart!

8 Things to take away from blind Bartimaeus:

Mark 10:46

1. Bartimaeus was known for his _____ not his _____! His situation had become synonymous with his name - Blind Bartimaeus!

Has your situation defined you, or have you defined your situation! (Psalm 78:41)

(Charles Spurgeon - "Our anxiety does not empty tomorrow of its sorrows, but only empties today of its strengths.")

2. Bartimaeus was not living an _____! His entire lifestyle had been affected by his disability, reducing him to a beggars life!

Has your situation shipwrecked your faith in God, reducing you to live below the promised abundant life? (John 10:10)

(Smith Wigglesworth - "The blood of Jesus Christ and His mighty name are an antidote to all the subtle seeds of unbelief that Satan would sow in your minds.")

Mark 10:46-47

3. Bartimaeus perceived an _____! He knew that the answer was walking past him and immediately got pro-active - he cried out! (It's called prayer)

We must get to the place in our spiritual walk that we seek out opportunities when God's spirit is moving and respond accordingly - try not to miss a church meeting (any meeting) if at all possible! (Isaiah 49:8)

4. Bartimaeus used the _____ of _____! He used Messianic terms!

We must learn to pray effective prayers! (James 5:14)

Mark 10:48

5. Bartimaeus would not be _____! The crowds following Jesus tried to silence Bartimaeus' voice!

The enemy uses many voices to scream at you, in an attempt to silence you and steal your hope Don't stop asking and crying out, even when the answer is delayed!

Mark 10:49-50

6. Bartimaeus got Jesus' _____! Jesus stops when He hears Bartimaeus cries!

Jesus is close to those in need and will answer them! (Psalm 34:18; Matthew 6:6)

7. Bartimaeus got out of his _____! He could have stayed in his current situation, as uncomfortable as it was (status quo), however he chose to rise above his circumstances, casting off his mantle he made a move towards Jesus!

The importance of the mantle is found in Exodus 22:26.

We must be willing to cast off all the uncertainties of life and make our move to the Lord! (1 John 5:4)

Mark 10:51-52

8. Bartimaeus made a _____ request! Jesus knew what Bartimaeus needed, but He wanted to hear it from him!

God knows what you need, but He wants to hear it from you! Be specific when you pray!

(Psalm 37:4; 1 Peter 5:7)

"Lord that I might receive..." was Bartimaeus' request and it should be ours in 2018! Lord that I might receive _____!