

No Joke-- You Are Loved!

Ready:

Jesus stopped, called them, and said, "What do you want me to do for you?" "Lord," they said to him, "open our eyes." Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes. Immediately they could see, and they followed him. Matthew 20:32-34

Set

Jesus is on the move, but He stops for a couple unknown men. Consider the life these blind men must have experienced, living in darkness. Have they ever seen the colors of creation, the uniqueness of animals, or another person's face? To live in darkness and to feel desperately alone most of your life must have been miserable.

Notice how Jesus felt. He felt sorry for them. He was loving and compassionate in his response to the cries of these men. Notice what Jesus did. Spurred on by love and compassion, He acted! He touched their eyes, and instantly they could see.

There are days when I don't feel like God sees me or my problems. I feel defeated, frustrated, and confused by my struggles and pains. But what is truth? I am loved by a God who sees me where I am and chooses to stop just for me. He does the same for you. He chooses to love those who are lonely, isolated, and deemed untouchable.

Even if you are on a team, it's easy to feel like you are alone. Ask God to open your eyes to His presence, just as Elisha did for his servant in 2 Kings 6:17, "Then Elisha prayed, "Lord, please open his eyes and let him see." So the Lord opened the servant's eyes, and he saw that the mountain was covered with horses and chariots of fire all around Elisha."

God loves you, right now, right where you are at! Maybe you don't see it. But He does!

Go

- What did Jesus do for the blind men?
- When have you felt like God doesn't see your problems?
- Who in your life needs their eyes open to God's presence? Who can you pray for?

Workout

Psalm 23:4

2 Kings 6:17

Overtime

Heavenly Father, open my eyes to see your love. Thank you for your grace and mercy.
Thank you for loving me so much that you sent your only Son to save me. Thank you for your
promise to never leave me. Give me strength to walk in truth today, amen.



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