

Journey To Jerusalem, Part 4: Journey From Jerusalem
Luke 18:35 – 19:10, p. 1039

On Jesus' determination to go to Jerusalem

When the days grew near for [Jesus] to be taken up, he set his face to go to Jerusalem. –Luke 9:51 [ESV]

The Blind Beggar [Luke 18:35-43]

The Tax Collector [Luke 19:1-10]

Jesus' words to his disciples following his resurrection

This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. I am going to send you what my Father has promised; but stay in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high. -Luke 24:46-49

Additional thoughts for Application

Identifying with the blind man and the tax collector:

Do you know the joy that comes from being saved by Jesus?

As the experience of the blind man and the tax collector remind us, joy comes when we trust Jesus and choose to fully follow him. Following is not an easy task. Jesus likened it to taking up a cross daily. Many who encountered Jesus could not take the step of following him.

Perhaps you have known the joy that comes with following Jesus, but right now life's struggles or life's busyness have caused you to temporarily lose sight of that joy. If this is the case, honestly ask yourself, "Have I lost sight of what it means to fully follow Jesus—through all circumstances." Following Jesus means living as he has instructed and trusting that he cares for you and is in control. The forgiveness that comes from Jesus' sacrifice on the cross and the power that comes from his resurrection from the grave is fully available to you today.

Identifying with Jesus

Think of the homes of your four closest neighbors. When was the last time you had a conversation with them? Some of the people in those buildings have already been saved by Jesus and know the joy that comes from following him. Most have not.

Jesus sees unsaved people as lost. And he wants them found. There is a good chance that Jesus wants you to help one of your neighbors to come to know him. If you don't know where to start, begin by praying that God would give them curiosity or sense a need for Jesus. Then, look for an opportunity to care or to share. (It's not too late to invite someone to Easter service.)