

"GRACE IS IN EVERY WHY!"- FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT
MARCH 22, 2020 - 1 SAMUEL 16:1-13; EPHESIANS 5:8-14; JOHN 9:1-17, 34-41
Promises for your pocket or purse - Take notes and carry them with you.

Do you like knowing why things happen? We all have things that blind us along the way, those things that keep us from seeing God. We all have times that leave us feeling broken and forsaken, lost and alone, asking God, 'Why,' 'Why, God,' 'Why this,' 'Why now,' 'Why when I need you most, have you forsaken me?' Today our journey through Jesus' seven last words points us to Jesus crying out on the cross, "My God, My God, why have you forsaken me?" Today we also hear Jesus coming to a blind man, a man who in ways felt forsaken from birth. The man is given sight, and we hear the simple power of these seven words: "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him.' In the midst of all that can leave us feeling forsaken, our purpose, our sin, our human circumstance, let us like Jesus call on the simple renewing power of the only One who is in the midst of every 'why,' the only One who can come and help, the One who never forsakes us, The One who graces us, "My God, My God!"

1. When you ask "why," feel blind as to how God is using you, calling you, when you feel lost and forsaken, like you are on your own when it comes to making God first, trust and call on Who never forsakes you, Who graces you!
1 Samuel 16:1-13; John 9:1-4,13-17,34-38; Matthew 27:46
 - A. The temple leaders blindly led themselves, rather than calling on the simple renewing power of God to open their eyes and hearts.
 - B. Even Samuel at times felt forsaken in his calling. Like Samuel, hear Who is faithfully leading you, 'My God, My God.'
 - C. Jesus' calling led him to the cross, alone, away from the Father and Holy Spirit. He felt what it was to be forsaken.
 - D. As Jesus came to the blind man, as Jesus came to the cross, Jesus and The Holy Spirit come to lead us, to grace us and to never forsake us!

2. When you ask "why" and feel blind in the midst of the darkness of your sin, when you feel lost and forsaken like you cannot save yourself, trust Who you can call on, Who never forsakes you, Who saves you, graces you!
Ephesians 5:8-14; John 9:1-4, 13-17; Matthew 27:46
 - A. The temple leaders were blind to their own sin, trying to judge others, rather than allowing God to be God. This is darkness.
 - B. Jesus goes to the cross on his own to save us from our sin and our sins. This is light, The Light of the world!

- C. As Jesus came to the blind man, as Jesus came to the cross, Jesus comes to us, to forgive us, to give us light, to never forsake us, to save us, to grace us!
3. When you ask “why,” and feel blind in the midst of your own human circumstance and condition, during times like these that we face today, when you feel lost and forsaken, like there is no hope, see Who comes to you to restore hope, Who never forsakes you, Who graces you! John 9:1, 35-38; Matthew 27:46
- A. As Jesus came to the blind man to help him see what he had never seen before, trust the One who comes to you, to heal you!
 - B. As Jesus came to the cross, true God, true man, he experienced the pain of human suffering on his own. Call on him!
 - C. When you feel most forsaken, see Who comes to you to open your eyes to the One you can call on, and then point others to the One who will never forsake you, Who graces you!
4. When you ask “why” and feel blind, when you feel lost and forsaken, call on the only One who has the simple, yet, incredible renewing power, to come to you, to save you. Trust God’s grace is in the midst of every why! Like the blind man, let us then share these seven simple powerful words, “Lord I believe ... And I worship you!”