

Can You Stop Jesus

Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic
By: Sis Techie Rodriguez (Elder-Founder)
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We all have been in a desperate situation at one time or another. When we feel we are at a dead end, we can cry out to God because He is mighty, more than enough, and more than able to help us. In Lk. 18:1-8, Jesus gave the parable of the wicked judge and the persistent widow so that we should not quit praying. Hence, even at our lowest point, we should have the spirit of expectation that Jesus is present and hears our pleas. If we are righteous and clean when facing the Lord, our cry for help will be answered (Ps. 34:15; Job 34:28).

Many individuals in the Bible persevered even when others tried to stop Jesus, the Master.

1. **Moses** was used by God to deliver Israel from the Egyptians because He heard their call.
2. **The Blind Man Bartimaeus** (Mk. 10:46-52). He was sitting by the roadside begging. He desperately called Jesus and cried for mercy and deliverance. Although people were blocking his way, he kept calling out all the more. When Jesus called him, he threw off his beggar's garment and jumped to his feet toward Jesus. His faith saved him and he received his sight.
 - 2.1 We should not let anyone stop us from praising God. Let us pray so we can see Him.
 - 2.2 The beggar's garment symbolized his old lifestyle. He lived in this garment with the limitations and mental disposition of his old life. When we are renewed, we must put away our old practices and live according to the image of our Creator (Col. 3: 5-11).
3. **Saul's Conversion.** Saul was persecuting the disciples when Jesus appeared to him along his journey and he became blind. But, after he was baptized, he was filled with the Holy Spirit and regained his sight and his strength (Acts 9:17-19).
 - 3.1 There are many spiritually blind along the road who cannot see the light of the Gospel. We who now see should lead them to God (2 Cor. 4:4, Lk. 4:18).

3.2 When we see the light of Jesus, we discover His greatest treasure - His faith and heart - and we begin to discard the old, worthless things.

3.3 Despite trials, Jesus will make everything perfect. We should always have hope because He is in control. Only He can change our hearts.

4. **The Healing of the Paralytic** (Jn. 5:1-14). For 38 years, the paralytic was ill and just waiting for someone to bring him into the pool. Jesus told him to rise, take up his mat, and walk. Further, Jesus told him that he was well and not to sin anymore, so that nothing worse may happen.

4.1 If we want to get well, we have to do something, get out of our "box" and follow Jesus.

4.2 Let us ask for help/prayers from others who are spiritually mature. We should not keep waiting for others to push us into the pool.

5. **The Bleeding Woman** (Mk. 5:25-34). She was suffering for 12 years and the doctors could do nothing. While she was deemed unclean and should not approach Jesus, she acted on her faith. She believed that touching Jesus' garment would heal her. Instantly, her flow of blood dried up and she felt her body healed from affliction. Jesus was pleased with her faith and said, "Daughter, your faith has saved you. Go in peace and be cured of your affliction."

Conclusion:

The Lord wants us to have a personal encounter with Him. We should pray unceasingly and He will listen to our cry.

Reflection:

1. Are you now bearing fruit from several years in the renewal (Ps 34)? Are you more loving, more compassionate, and closer to God?
2. How will you let Jesus touch you? How many years have you been praying for something?

Scribes Ministry:

Transcriber/Writer: Sis Jo Advincula

Edited by: Sis Maro Anyog

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