

# The One Thing

*One Thing I Know – How Obedience Led to True Sight*

*“...one thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.” John 9:25b*

*Passage: John 8:52-10:4*

**Review:** Psalm 27

*“One thing I have desired of the Lord, that will I seek:  
That I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,  
to behold the beauty of the Lord  
and to inquire in His temple.”*

Making God the center of your life is the one thing that can bring peace to the chaos and clutter in your life. It is to fix your eyes upon Jesus, whom should be treasured above all things.

1. Seek to KNOW His \_\_\_\_\_ - to dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.
2. Seek to KNOW His \_\_\_\_\_ - to behold and gaze on the beauty of the Lord.
3. Seek to KNOW His \_\_\_\_\_ - to inquire and meditate in His temple.
4. Seek to KNOW His \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ His heart, and \_\_\_\_\_ His commands.

## Introduction:

Pursuing the ‘One Thing’ is about intimacy with Christ. It is about our desire/longing/yearning to truly *know* and *be known* by Him. The principal component of intimacy is trust.

Intimacy with the Lord happens when we intentionally choose to seek, trust, and obey.

*Psalm 73:28*

*“for me it is good to be near God”*

*James 4:8*

*“Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you”*

*Proverbs 3:5,6*

*“Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not unto your own understanding.  
In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will direct your path.”*

\_\_\_\_\_ is at the heart of intimacy.

“What you must trust God most for right now is where He means for you to draw closer to Him. It is likely an invitation that your flesh wants to decline. Intimacy with God often occurs in the places where we must trust Him most.” *Jon Bloom – Desiring God Blogger*

Intimacy with God allows you to climb up in Jesus' arms. You obtain a confidence you didn't have, a sense of victory you didn't possess, and a willingness to face the enemy or situation with authority.

Psalm 91:4

*He shall cover thee with his feathers, and under his wings shalt thou trust: his truth shall be thy shield and buckler. (KJV)*

*His massive arms are wrapped around you, protecting you.*

*You can run under his covering of majesty and hide.*

*His arms of faithfulness are a shield keeping you from harm. (TPT)*

“Your intimacy expands your capacity  
which allows you to bump up your authority over any situation.” *Tony Evans*

- I. **Jesus is the Light of the World** – “I am the Light of the World. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life.”

**Glory Shines** – Everywhere that the light goes, the glory shines out!

*2 Corinthians 4:6-10*

*“For God, who commanded the light to shine out of darkness, has shined in our hearts, to give light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ. But we have this treasure in earthen vessels, that the excellency of the power may be of God, and not of us. We are troubled on every side, yet not distressed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; Persecuted, but not forsaken; cast down, but not destroyed; Always bearing about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life also of Jesus might be made manifest in our body.*

Do you identify and see yourself here? Troubled? Perplexed? Depressed (cast down)?

One of the primary means of shining out this light is by performing signs...miracles...

Displaying His \_\_\_\_\_ through our lives.

### **Glory Causes Sight – Spiritual Sight**

We are able to see and better understand the mysteries of God. He reveals things to us that make us hungry for more of Him.

See with \_\_\_\_\_ value. Actions become more \_\_\_\_\_ based.

### **Glory Causes Division**

The brightness of God's glorious light divided humanity.

The back side of light are \_\_\_\_\_ and darkness.

List ways darkness tries to overcome us: Fear – Depression – Anxiety .....

## II. Jesus Passes By –

John 9:1 “As He passed by, He saw...”

### **Compassion**

Not only did Jesus see, He had compassion, and stopped to meet a need from this quiet man.

1 Peter 5: 6,7

*Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God [set aside self-righteous pride], so that He may exalt you [to a place of honor in His service] at the appropriate time, casting all your cares [all your anxieties, all your worries, and all your concerns, once and for all] on Him, for He cares about you [with deepest affection, and watches over you very carefully]. (Amplified Version)*

Why do we have evil? Sickness? Trouble?

For God to show mercy, compassion, and His saving grace. For in this, His glory is displayed and made known.

### **Clay – A vehicle of Hope**

Many have tried to say that Jesus used dirt because man was fashioned from the ground; and the spit was from the mouth of God who spoke and breathed life. We don't really know and it's not for us to know why, just as it isn't for us to know why God chose to use a cross to lead to redemption.

I believe that mud was a symbol of Hope. It gave the blindman something to carry with him, in obedience, which led to healing and ultimately spiritual sight! This journey of heavy mud with hope was carried a long way to the place where Jesus commanded him to walk.

Isaiah 40:31

*“But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary,  
they will walk and not be faint.”*

Psalm 71:5a

*“For you, O Lord, are my **hope**, my trust...”*

### **Changes our perspective on our brokenness**

Without an infirmity, this man may have never met Jesus. Every part of our life is designed to display the glory of God.

How might this reality transform the way we see our brokenness? Failures? Struggles?  
We like to hide those things.

It is only when our eyes are open to the light of the knowledge of the \_\_\_\_\_ of God that our \_\_\_\_\_ changes.

Care to Share with Us? Open for testimony here!

### III. Jesus Transforms

*"We...are being transformed into His image with ever-increasing glory... "2 Cor. 3:18*

***Conversations & Controversy*** – begin in John 9:8

People are confused and have a difficult time recognizing the once blind man.

\_\_\_\_\_ transformation takes place when you have an encounter with Jesus Christ.

- Neighbors didn't believe him
- Pharisees didn't believe him
- Parents didn't understand or support him
- Called in for 2<sup>nd</sup> questioning

#### ***Crisis of Belief***

All of the conversations and controversy led him to a crisis of belief. He was faced with a choice.

To believe or not to believe! Each conversation led him closer to believing in whom Jesus claimed to be. "The Light of the World." The blind man had experiential knowledge. He had experienced the healing hand of Jesus, yet, up to this moment he still hadn't \_\_\_\_\_ Jesus.

This was his turning point:

"Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I do know, that though I was blind, NOW I SEE!"  
*(emphasis added)*

#### ***Confession***

"If this man were not from God, He could do nothing."

His language began to change as he repeated the marvelous act of receiving sight.

1. *"This man called Jesus"*
2. *"a Prophet"*
3. *He surmised that Jesus was from God*

He was being transformed from Glory to Glory!

*2 Corinthians 3:18*

*"And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."*

#### ***Cast Out***

The blind man grew under persecution.

We become stronger in our \_\_\_\_\_ and reflect the light of Jesus to the world.

Some are \_\_\_\_\_ to the light and others try to \_\_\_\_\_ us up!

*2 Corinthians 6:14c "...what fellowship can light have with darkness?"*

## **Jesus Seeks – Intimately & Individually Pursues**

Luke 19:10 “For the Son of Man came to seek and to save...”

Jesus heard what had happened...

### **Shows Himself**

And finding him... “Jesus finds the one who has been thrown out, acting like the Good Shepherd he will soon claim to be. Here is the tenderness and mercy of God in action.” *IVP NT Commentary*

### **Speaks to Us**

He spoke with him... “Do you believe?”

*Romans 10:10-12*

*For with the heart man believes unto righteousness;  
and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.  
For the scripture says, Whosoever believes on Him shall not be ashamed.  
For there is no difference between the Jew and the Greek:  
for the same Lord over all is rich unto all that call upon Him.*

In time of trouble Jesus came. And He will come to speak words of comfort, encouragement, and peace to a suffering believer! The man’s question was out of a **yearning** and a **desire to know** Jesus more fully.

We have seen here in John 9 how the glory of God was made manifest.

Jesus is the Light of the World \_\_\_\_\_ His glory!

He \_\_\_\_\_ by, and transforms us as He \_\_\_\_\_ and individually pursues us.

He shows Himself and speaks to us, then shepherds us.

### **Shepherds Us**

*“The sheep hear His voice and he calls His own sheep by name and leads them out. When He puts forth all His own, He goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow Him because they know His voice.”*

“We are His people and the sheep of His pasture.” Psalm 100

Our job, as sheep in the fold, are to follow the Good Shepherd, hear His voice, trust His leading, and obey His directions. It is in our best interest to follow Him – wherever He leads.

*Jeremiah 7:23*

*“But this is what I commanded them, saying, ‘Obey My voice, and I will be your God, and you will be My people; and you will walk in all the way which I command you, that it may be well with you.’”*

We must let Jesus have His way, then trust and obey. The blind man – now transformed, had been harassed, persecuted, and cast out – He set his gaze on Jesus. He became what He beheld! A follower of Christ. A sheep in the fold. One who now sees glory shining from out of his previous darkness. His life was used to display the glory of God.

### ***Conclusion***

Do you believe?

Belief leads to trust and trust leads to intimacy. Intimacy leads to a deep level of relationship, by which you can confidently and passionately express, "I know, that I know I know; because I once was blind, but now I see!"

What is God asking of you right now? With what do you need to place your trust in Jesus?

Write down the one word or sentence on the card provided. When you are ready, with courage to trust and obey, place it at the foot of the cross and take the next right step toward intimacy with Him.

### **Communion & Closing Worship**

#### ***Desire and Seek***

##### ***Reflection Writing***

Close your eyes. Take a moment to hear those personal words Jesus is speaking to you now. The Holy Spirit has stopped by with compassion. He sees you where you are. Feel His warm hand gently on your shoulder. He is speaking. Listen. What do you hear Him say to you? Has He been asking you to trust Him and follow His lead, but you have been fearful? Like the blind man, trust Jesus now. Be vulnerable to let Him do His good pleasure in your life. Write out His words to you, your thoughts, feelings, and/or response to His call.