

The Gospel According to Matthew

The Jesus Prayer

June 12, 2022

Matthew 20v20-34

20 Then the mother of the sons of Zebedee came to him with her sons, and kneeling before him, she asked a favour of him. 21 And he said to her, 'What do you want?' She said to him, 'Declare that these two sons of mine will sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your kingdom.' 22 But Jesus answered, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I am about to drink?' They said to him, 'We are able.' 23 He said to them, 'You will indeed drink my cup, but to sit at my right hand and at my left, this is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared by my Father.'

24 When the ten heard it, they were angry with the two brothers. 25 But Jesus called them to him and said, 'You know that the rulers of the Gentiles lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. 26 It will not be so among you; but whoever wishes to be great among you must be your servant, 27 and whoever wishes to be first among you must be your slave; 28 just as the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

29 As they were leaving Jericho, a large crowd followed him. 30 There were two blind men sitting by the roadside. When they heard that Jesus was passing by, they shouted, 'Lord, have mercy on us, Son of David!' 31 The crowd sternly ordered them to be quiet; but they shouted even more loudly, 'Have mercy on us, Lord, Son of David!' 32 Jesus stood still and called them, saying, 'What do you want me to do for you?' 33 They said to him, 'Lord, let our eyes be opened.' 34 Moved with compassion, Jesus touched their eyes. Immediately they regained their sight and followed him.

How does God want us to speak to Him?

What more does Matthew have to say about prayer?

2 Requests

A Mother for Her Sons

Two Blind Men

What is she requesting?

What are they requesting?

Status? Prestige? Power?

Mercy?
What is mercy?

What if this is how Herod's Kingdom does things?

The Theme of Mercy in Matthew

Go and learn what this means, "I desire mercy, not sacrifice."
_ Matthew 9v13a

Mercy: Eleison

Hosea 11v1-8

God's loving kindness.
God's loyal love.

The root of eleison is the word for olive oil.

Olive Oil's Role in Jesus' World:

1. Sustenance

2. Light

3. Healing

4. Anointing

How might asking for God's mercy, and its nuanced forms, help you pray?

The Jesus Prayer:
Lord Jesus, Son of David,
have mercy on me.

Rosary Anyone?

Podcast: *Hellenic College: Down the Road - The Jesus Prayer (January 12, 2012); Narrate Church: Is That a Rosary? (March 7, 2022)*

Songs: As You Find me, The Solid Rock, Mightier, Our God Alone, Build My Life

Looking to Connect?: One of the staff would love to meet for a walk, on the phone, or for a beverage. To schedule a time please visit our website and click on the "Meet with Staff" button on the home page.

Meet with a Pastor, Therapist or Spiritual Director ?: Email info@narratechurch.org and we will schedule a meeting or help you get connected with a therapists or spiritual directors.