

Chat with the Children: Thanksgiving

- When do you say thanks?
- Who do you say thanks to?
- How do you say thanks?

- *Move into thanksgiving for baby Ava...*

Introduction

- Jericho - 14 miles from Jerusalem, a stiff day's walk up the hill (3400 feet, height of Buachaille Etive Mor, Glencoe!)
- Retell the story with the seven pictures (slides are from Mark's account, where we only hear of one of the men, but discover his name was Bartimaeus)

Question Implies: is Jesus capable?

- In a hotel and bump into one of the house-keeping staff in the corridor - don't expect to be able to ask them to upgrade your room! But if it was the manager...
- "Lord, Son of David"
 - Lord - acknowledgement of greatness and power at very least, possibly all the way up to being God...
 - Son of David - promised Messiah, person who would come to save his people, whatever they understood that to mean...
- But would those declarations of faith translate into real trust?
 - Jesus question pushes them - do you want something that the Lord, the Son of David, and only he, would be capable of giving?
 - or just something any famous preacher and teacher of Palestine would be able to give - nice words, a "blessing"?

Question Implies: is Jesus willing?

- Go back to hotel room story... is the manager willing to upgrade you?
- Bottom of the pile, economically worthless, a burden on society, begging on the street to make ends meet...
 - would Jesus have any time for these blind men?
 - see something of the cultural expectations in the attitude of the crowd, shushing them!
- Is Jesus willing to help me?

Question Implies: are you ready to trust? (and risk!)

- Go back to hotel room story... are you willing to take the risk of asking?
- Whenever you ask something of someone you run the risk of their rejection, of the embarrassment or worse that might cause, of looking silly for asking...

- What are you willing to risk by asking?
 - disappointment, ridicule...?

Conclusion: What do you want me to do for you?

- Beggars of us the same question

- Maybe something specific into a situation you face:
 - healing, job, relationship, money.....
 - willing to ask? willing to ask specifically? Is Jesus really who we claim him to be? You really willing to put trust in him?
- Maybe its relationship with him:
 - either because you see others around here in church who seem to know Jesus

Matthew 20:29-What do you want me to do for you? Entry, 17/3/2013, am

- in a way you don't, who speak of a relationship with him, of talking with him, of following him, of being saved by him, in a way you don't recognise in yourself....
- or because your relationship has gone stale, flat...
- I want to get to know you (again)...
- is Jesus real? really who we claim him to be? You willing to put trust in him?
- Maybe you are not sure - feel an outsider?
 - show me if you are real...