



God's Heart For Week 1

Pastor Russ Chambers | October 4, 2026

Main Scripture: Luke 18:35-43

Connect

ICEBREAKER

Tell us about a time someone stopped what they were doing for you when they did not have to: a stranger who helped, a friend who showed up, a teacher who stayed late. How did it feel?

Message Snapshot

BIG IDEA

On His way to the cross, Jesus stops for the one everyone else tries to silence. 4 Points Church is called to carry that same heart: we stop because people matter.

STICKY BOTTOM LINE

Where the crowd saw an interruption, Jesus saw a person.

REMEMBER THIS

It is possible to be close to Jesus and still overlook the people Jesus cares about.

KEY TRUTHS FROM SUNDAY

- Jesus had just told the disciples for the third time that He would suffer and die, and still He stopped for one man. Worry about what is next can make us miss the moments where God wants to work through us.
- Luke 18 keeps asking who is worthy of God's attention, and ends with a blind beggar the crowd dismissed. His cry of Son of David was a statement of faith, and he cried out all the more when told to be quiet.
- The crowd was close to Jesus and still tried to silence him. Pastor Russ asked who we avoid, whose needs feel like an inconvenience, and whether our habits make it harder for someone to meet Jesus.
- Jesus asked, What do you want me to do for you? He also gave the crowd a job in bringing the man near. Our job is the same: to help people come near, not to expect them to find their own way.
- The man received his sight, followed Jesus, and glorified God, and the crowd joined the praise. No one has to earn an audience with Jesus. It is by grace through faith.

Scripture

Read together: Luke 18:35-43

As you read, notice what the crowd does and what Jesus does with the same man. Watch what the man calls Jesus, and what he does after he can see.

Discuss

OBSERVE

- 1 What does the blind man call Jesus in verses 38 and 39, and how does the crowd respond? What does he do next?
- 2 In verses 40 and 41, what does Jesus do, and what question does He ask the man?

- 3 In verses 42 and 43, what does the man do once he can see? How do the people around him respond?

UNDERSTAND

- 4 Pastor Russ pointed out that Jesus was walking toward the cross and still stopped. What is on your near horizon right now, and how does it change how much room you have for the person in front of you?
- 5 Pastor Russ said it is possible to be close to Jesus and still overlook the people Jesus cares about. Why do you think that happens so easily, even to people who love Him?
- 6 Jesus knew the man was blind and still asked, What do you want me to do for you? Pastor Russ called it a scary question. What makes it hard to answer honestly?

APPLY

- 7 Pastor Russ asked, whose needs have started to feel like an inconvenience? Who came to mind as you listened, and what has made it easy to keep passing by?
- 8 The crowd told the man he was not important enough to bother Jesus. Is there something you have stopped bringing to God because it felt too small, too repeated, or too much? What would it look like to cry out about it again?

Live It Out

Pastor Russ gave this challenge: notice someone you usually pass by, listen before deciding what they need, and take a step that helps them encounter Jesus. This week, pick one person, a coworker, a neighbor, or someone at church, and stop for them. Ask a question and listen. Then take one step, like inviting them to sit with you on Sunday or to come with you to a Community Group. Come ready to share what happened.

Prayer

- Thank Jesus that on His way to the cross He stopped for people the world overlooked, and that He stopped for each of us.
- Confess the ways we have been too busy, too distracted by what comes next, or too comfortable to be interrupted by the people God puts in front of us.
- Ask God to open our eyes to the person we usually pass by, and to give us the courage to help them come near to Jesus.
- Pray for anyone who feels overlooked or has stopped bringing things to God, that they would cry out all the more.
- Pray for 4 Points Church to stay a church that stops for the least, the lost, and the lonely, no matter how big we get.

Jesus, thank You that You were headed to the cross and still stopped for one person everyone else wanted quiet. Forgive us for the times we have looked at an interruption and missed a person. Open our eyes this week to someone we would usually pass by, and give us the courage to stop, listen, and help them come near to You. We know we do not have to earn Your attention. Thank You that it is grace. In Your name, amen.

HOST TIP The first Apply question asks people to name someone they avoid, which can feel uncomfortable. Go first and be honest about your own pattern, describing the situation rather than naming the person. That gives the group permission to be real without turning the conversation into gossip.