I was once blind, but now I….
Luke 19:33-44
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Luke 19:33-44: As they were untying the colt, its owners asked them, "Why are you untying the colt?" [34] They replied, "The Lord needs it." [35] They brought it to Jesus, threw their cloaks on the colt, and put Jesus on it. [36] As he went along, people spread their cloaks on the road. [37] When he came near the place where the road goes down the Mount of Olives, the whole crowd of disciples began joyfully to praise God in loud voices for all the miracles they had seen: [38] "Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Peace in heaven and glory in the highest!" [39] Some of the Pharisees in the crowd said to Jesus, "Teacher, rebuke your disciples!" [40] "I tell you," he replied, "if they keep quiet, the stones will cry out." [41] As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it [42] and said, "If you, even you, had only known on this day what would bring you peace-- but now it is hidden from your eyes. [43] The days will come upon you when your enemies will build an embankment against you and encircle you and hem you in on every side. [44] They will dash you to the ground, you and the children within your walls. They will not leave one stone on another, because you did not recognize the time of God's coming to you." (NIV)

Our Vision: Connect with Christ, Church, and Community

1. _____ for clarity

_____ ourselves: The Lord said to Cain, "Where is your brother, Abel?" Cain replied, "I do not know! Am I my brother's guardian? The Lord said, "What have you done? The voice of the blood of your brother cries out to me from the ground!"

Genesis 4:9-10 (JOT)

_____exchange: Therefore, God allows their passions to rule them…the consequence of this was exchanging the truth of God for a lie! They blindly worshiped and served the created things rather than the Creator, who is to be blessed forever!

Romans 1:24-25 (JOT)

2. _____ of light to shatter the darkness

_____: The whole multitude of the disciples began rejoicing to the top of their lungs, praising God for all the powerful things they had witnessed, saying: Blessed is the Lord's King! Peace in heaven and glory to God in the highest! Luke 19:37-38 (JOT)

_____: Some Pharisees from the crowd told him, "Teacher, get your disciples under control!" But he said, "If they kept quiet, the stones would do it for them, shouting praise."

Luke 19:39-40 (MSG)

_____: Weeping, Jesus said: "You are blind on this day to things that could give you peace! It is concealed by your darkness! The days are coming upon you…because you could not recognize the season of God's visitation to make you whole!

Luke 19:41-42a, 44b (JOT)

3. _____ to the strength of renewed vision

_____ direction: Seek the Lord, and he will be found! Call upon him whenever he is near! Let the ungodly person forsake their ways and the lawless person their purpose! Return to the Lord, he will have mercy because he has great forgiveness for your sins!

Isaiah 55:6-7 (JOT)

Spiritual Action Step:

Where are you walking in darkness? Are you traveling under a burden of emptiness and fear? Are you tired of the confusion and uncertainty? Jesus said, *I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.* (John 10:10 (NIV)) Jesus wants to open our eyes to abundant life. We continue to love the darkness rather than coming to the light. Know and recognize that God offers you a path to find a peace that is beyond our understanding through what Christ has done on the cross. Where is God calling you to greater obedience in order to walk in the light? This week, read Luke 19 and Isaiah 55 to allow the Holy Spirit to shine the light of God's love in your heart!

Translations: NIV: New International Version; JOT: Jon's Own Translation; MSG: The Message.