

“What Do You Want Me to Do For You?” Jesus Asked.

Oh, how we Christians often fear this question. It is no bother if someone asks you or me the question. That only means that someone is ready to give us a helping hand - to aid, perhaps in a tedious project, lighten the load of over-commitment, or even hand out needy financial support at a lean time. The truth is, that often at the point of someone else's needs, this question probes at our souls, digs at our conscience, and disturbs us in our comfort zone. This is the very question that Jesus directly, sincerely, and unequivocally asked the blind man, Bartimaeus, one day when He (Jesus) was preaching in Jericho (**Mark 10:51**); yet it is one question that we followers of Jesus often avoid, even run from.

The question, “**What do you want me to do for you?**” requires standing still and looking someone straight in the place of his/her pain, of her lack, and often of his mess and chaos, and thereby positioning ourselves to do something about it.

Jesus was not afraid of asking this blind man what he needed, because Jesus knew that He could supply the need, but above all, Jesus knew that He *would* supply the need. One might say, in the spirit of Shakespeare's Hamlet, "Ah, there is the rub." The truth is, unlike the Jesus we love and adore; sometimes we just do not ask the question because we do not want to hear the answer. We just do not feel like hearing someone's pain, for whatever reason. Let the truth be told, there are times when we know that we could do something, as Jesus knew that He could help Bartimaeus. We have the resources, the skills, the opportunity; but we evade the question.

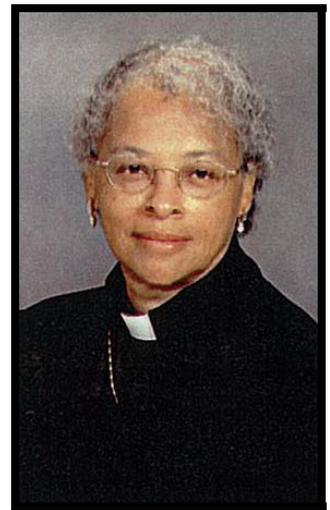
Like Jesus, we have the *could*, but unlike Jesus, we hold back on the *would*. Because of a lack of conviction, commitment, and/or courage, we let far too many Bartimaeus' leave our presence with needs unattended and ministry not provided.

Our prayer must be, *God forgive me for avoiding the question that would launch me forward in ministering to someone's needs. Give me the conviction, the commitment to you, and the courage to face up, stand up, and speak up when I know that I am needed. Help me, Lord, to ask the tough question, and mean it - the question you, yourself, asked of a hurting soul: **What do you want me to do for you?***

Rev. Leona Nicholas Welch

Assistant to
Rev. Christopher Zacharias
Pastor, First A.M.E Zion Church
San Francisco CA

Visionary, Founder, & Director of
**THESE ARE THE DAUGHTERS
MINISTRIES, INC.**



Rev. Christopher Zacharias
First A.M.E. Zion Church
2159 Golden Gate Ave
San Francisco, CA 94118
(415) 931-7479

www.firstamezion.com

Posted April 2016