Harvest Bible Chapel Denver October 18, 2015 Small Group Questions

Matthew 20:29-34 – Blind Bartimeus

- 1. Jeff mentioned four obstacles to crying out in our prayer life. Which of these is an obstacle for you right now?
 - a. Finding strength in our talents and abilities instead of the Lord
 - b. Finding strength in family, friends, experts, etc. instead of the Lord
 - c. Finding strength in money and resources instead of the Lord
 - d. Relying on gimmicks, fads, trends instead of the Lord.
- 2. Read the following Scriptures.
 - a. Matthew 7:7-12
 - b. Revelations 3:20-21
 - c. If the Lord wants us to ask, seek, and knock, and if it's never too late what thinking or interfering with your faith in these challenges from Jesus?
- 3. Does anyone in the group have a testimony to share of a time when they let go of their fear of unworthiness and called out to the Lord, and He showed up for them? Does any one have a "Bartimeus moment" to share?
- 4. Read Psalm 61:1-2 and Proverbs 3:34. Why is humility critical to prayer?
- 5. Pastor Jeff's statements on victim mentality are counter to popular culture and mainstream society. He specifically said, "Victims don't get their prayers answered". What four ways of thinking did Pastor Jeff state?
 - a. "I don't deserve this."
 - b. "I'm better than this."
 - c. "Others/God should care more about me than this."
 - d. "I am jealous/bitter/resentful this happened".
 - e. Do you ever find those ways of thinking creeping into your own life or thoughts? Is it possible to think like a victim without having gone through something horrific? What might that inform us about our hearts? Consider Jeremiah 17:9.
- 6. Asking in faith often means you are already taking steps of faith towards that prayer, that if God doesn't show up, it'll look foolish if it falls apart. What gets in the way of those steps of faith?
- 7. What is the difference between seeking favor and arrogance? What examples from Scripture illustrate what these two characteristics look like?
- 8. Pastor Jeff concluded with, "What is it that you brought in her today that you need to cry out to eth Jesus about with fervency?" Meditate on this and share it during your break out time.