

THE WESTSIDE CHURCH



i N S i G H T
"FOCUS"

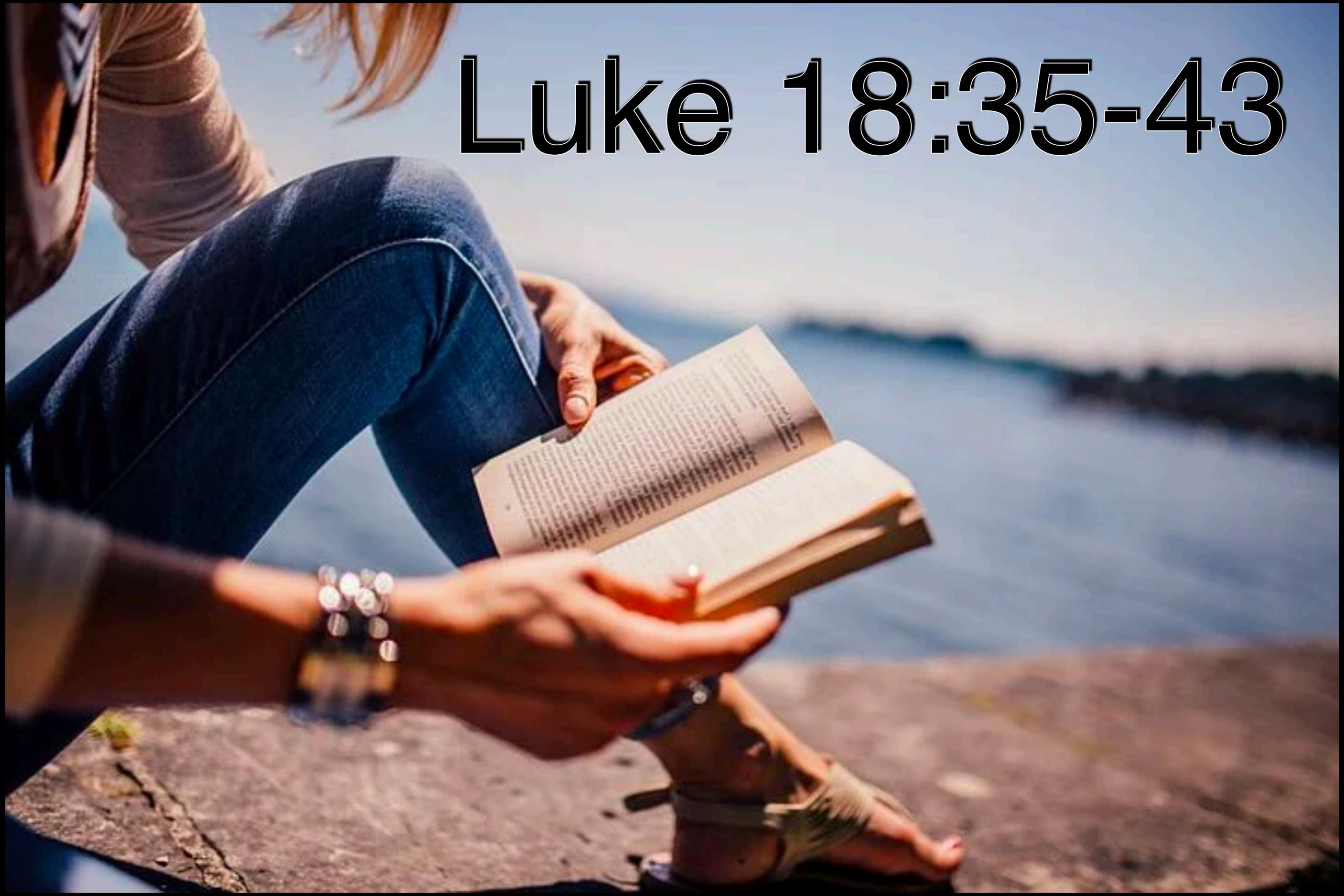
KENE IZUCHUKWU

in·sight:

the capacity to gain an accurate and deep intuitive understanding of a person or thing.

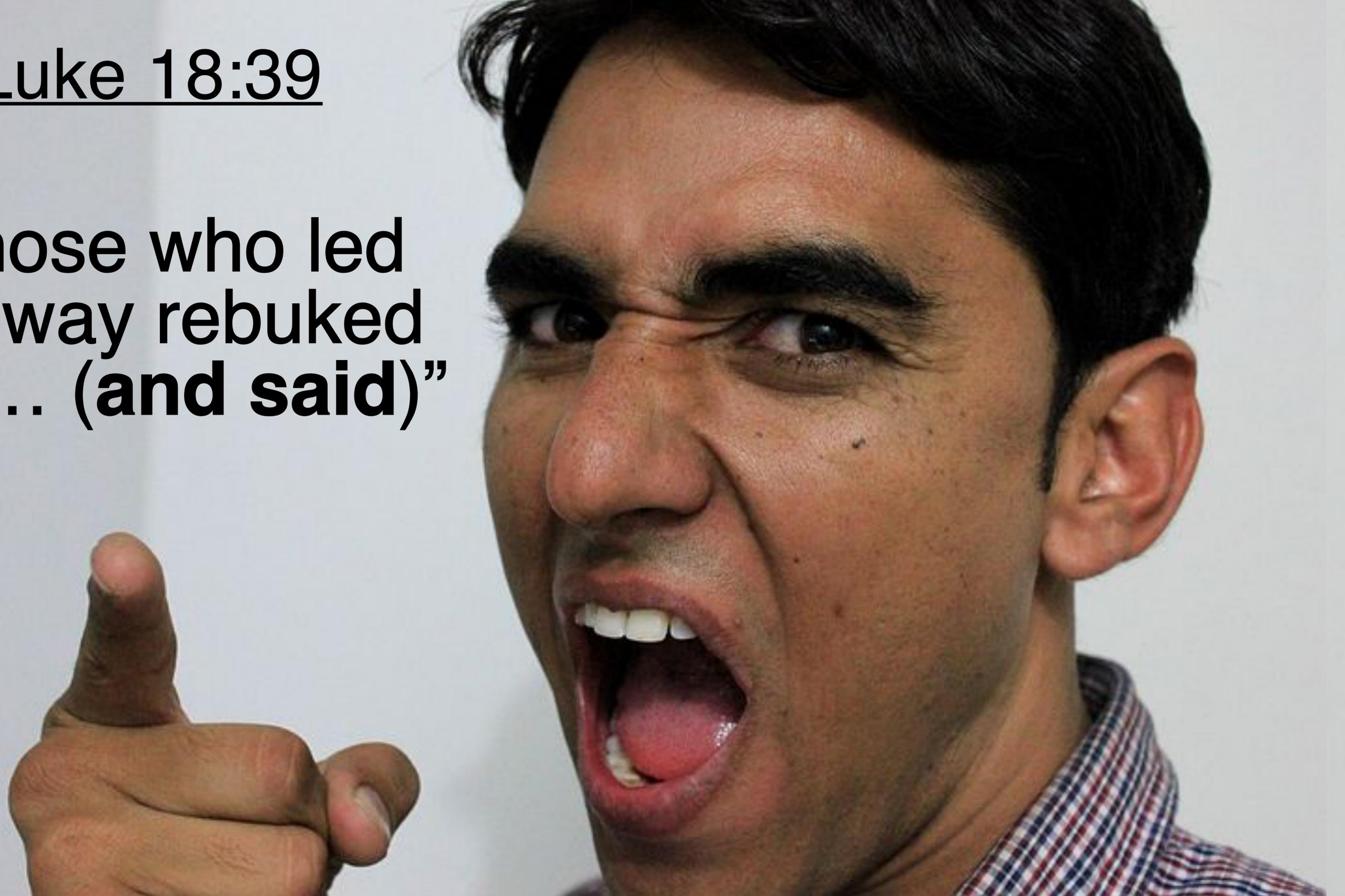


Luke 18:35-43



Luke 18:39

“Those who led
the way rebuked
him... **(and said)**”



A young boy and girl are sitting at a desk in an office-like setting. The boy, on the left, is wearing a dark blue t-shirt and has his arms raised in the air, looking excited. The girl, on the right, is wearing a green and white striped shirt and is pointing at a silver laptop on the desk. She also has her mouth open as if cheering. The background shows office doors and a red exit sign.

L u k e

18:43
“When all the people
saw it, they also
praised God.”
(and said)

³⁵ As Jesus approached **Jericho**, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging.

Luke 18:35



¹ Now the gates of Jericho were **securely barred** because of the Israelites. **No one went out and no one came in.** ² Then the Lord said to Joshua, **“SEE, I have delivered Jericho into your hands...”**

Joshua 6:1–2



The Lord sees what **we cannot see**



³⁶ When he heard **the crowd** going by, he asked what was happening. ³⁷ They told him, “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.” ³⁸ He called out, “Jesus, **Son of David, have mercy on me!**” ³⁹ **Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!”**

Luke 18:36-39



Sometimes our sight **distracts us from insight**



“we have become **masters in the art of distracting ourselves** from life’s depth. If we hope to penetrate the riches of our own interiority, we will need **a strong intention** to resist the clamoring demands of instant communication.”



Do you believe that you have blind spots?

Have you asked the Lord to help you see them?

How often do you ask those who follow the Lord to
reveal your blind spots?



If you truly believe that you are blind to areas in your heart, your mind, your soul - your life, then perhaps **you** should tell Jesus, “Lord, I want to see!”



⁴⁰ Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, ⁴¹ “What do you want me to do for you?” “Lord, I want to see,” he replied. ⁴² Jesus said to him, “Receive your sight; your faith has healed you.” ⁴³ Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God.

Luke 18:40–43



1. What could your life look like if you were **completely focused** on Jesus?
2. Does His sacrifice on the cross help you focus on God? Why or why not?



Religious activity is like paying taxes: you give up what you must, and then you try to forget about your loss so that you can enjoy what is left. **The Holy God of Scripture will not be managed by religion: he demands everything from us.** He will not be satisfied with an occasional sacrifice or prayer. He will not give in to our request for holy indifference, for some space to be ourselves, for a little spot of ground to call “mine...”

He will not leave us alone. He will give us no space and no time to experiment with corruption, slavery, injustice, sin, falsehood, and death. He loves us, and therefore he will not be satisfied with anything but our total, free, receiving and returning love. God is holy; God is love; God is holy love - these are terrible and wonderful words.”