

# **EMPTY HANDS, OPEN EYES**

(02/15/2026; Luke 18:15-43; Richie Pendred; Christ Proclamation Church)

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**Sermon Theme:** Jesus accomplishes our salvation through His death, burial, and resurrection. Therefore, God's kingdom is NOT entered by the capable or the confident, but by those who know they are helpless and cry for mercy. May we be those who abandon self-reliance and depend wholeheartedly on Christ!

## **I. Dependent Vs. Self-Reliant – Read Luke 18:15-30**

- A. Read Luke 18:15-17. Why do the disciples rebuke the children from coming to Jesus? What is Jesus' response to this action?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. In verse 16, Jesus says, "For such as these belongs the Kingdom of God." What does this statement mean? How does this impact how we engage the marginalized and needy?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- C. What information do we learn about the rich young ruler? In what ways is the ruler relying on himself rather than on Christ?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- D. What does it look like for someone to depend on God rather than be self-reliant? What are some signs in your life that you are trusting yourself rather than trusting in God?

## **II. Blind Vs. Spiritual Sight – Read Luke 18:31-43**

- A. Read Luke 18:31-34. What does Jesus foretell? How do the disciples respond to Jesus' claims about His life, death, and resurrection?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- B. Read Luke 18:35-43. How does the disciples' response contrast with the orientation of the blind man? What is most striking to you about the blind beggar?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- C. What is the significance of the blind man's clarity about who Jesus is? How does that clarity shape his posture before Jesus?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- D. What does it look like to live a life of ongoing, daily dependence on Jesus? How would you like to grow in seeing your need for the Lord Jesus on a regular basis?