

10. 24th October 2021 – Pentecost +22 – Dave’s Sermon

Jesus gives back Bartimaeus his sight.

A miracle amongst the many miraculous healings that Jesus did.

Does Jesus still do miracles today?

Go into any Christian bookshop and you will always find books of many & various people from all around the world, telling us of Jesus healing people today.

I want to share one such miracle with you.

But I also want to make clear,

that it was Jesus all the way who did the healing in the way that he did.

One Tues. arvo got a phone call from a friend in Mandurah;

A nine year old boy (Marvin) was riding home from school.

A ute in front of him stopped suddenly, it was loaded with concrete mesh.

Marvin did not stop and his head was impaled on the mesh.

It looked like he would die.

Hence the phone-call.

As it happened I taught scripture to the grade 12s on Wednesdays and we were at that time covering prayer.

I explained Marvin's situation to them and suggested we pray for Marvin which we did.

Next Tues got the news that Marvin was going to live but would have massive brain damage.

Went to school next day, again explained Marvin's plight and we prayed.

Next Tues. phone-call, no brain damage but Marvin was paralysed on his right side.

Back to school, prayed.

Next day I went to see Marvin in hospital for the first time.

Physio hovering wanted me gone.

So quickly explained to Marvin that I was a priest, told him about the kids in school praying for him.

Asked him if I could lay hands on him and pray for him. Which we did.

Of course I didn't touch his head.

Then left.

When his father came to see him

Marvin told his dad about this strange man who prayed for him.

And then Marvin said something like; " and do you know dad after he went, 'I could this' & raised his right arm.

About 6 months later we visited our friends in Mandurah & I was taken to see Marvin and his family.

Marvin was running around and jumping up & down in their trampoline.

Now I don't know why Jesus did it that way.

I also know that there were probably 1000s of people praying for Marvin as well as the kids at school and my congregation.

I'm also aware that many times we pray and the results are far from as dramatic.

Nevertheless what happened to Marvin can be proof to us that praying for people is right and necessary.