

SMALL GROUP

TODAY'S WONDER TRUTH: JESUS HAS POWER TO HEAL



WORD OF WONDER:

How great is God- beyond our understanding! The number of his years is past finding out!
- Job 36:26a

GOD'S BIG STORY:

Jesus Heals a Man Who Is Blind
(Mark 10)

GOD'S BIG STORY QUESTIONS:

- What was Bartimaeus, the man who was blind, doing before Jesus came along?
(begging for money)
- What do you think life may have been like for Bartimaeus as a blind man?
(Possible answers: he was likely treated as an outcast, the only way he could provide for his basic needs was by begging, etc.)
- When Bartimaeus shouted out to Jesus, how did the people around him react?
(They were annoyed and told him to be quiet.)
- Do you think the people were surprised when Jesus called for Bartimaeus? What makes you think that?
- According to Jesus, what was it that caused the blind man to be healed?
(Bartimaeus' faith)
- Why do you think faith is important when we ask Jesus for what we need?
- Do you think Jesus wants us to ask Him for the things that matter most to us? What makes you think so?

Welcome Question

- **Would you rather be in a crowded place or a quiet space? Why?** Consider telling kids about a crowded place or a quiet space where you like to go.
- **I think it's so cool how every one of us is unique from each other!** Some of us prefer busy, bustling cities or theme parks while others prefer a quiet room or peaceful nature trail. Today we're going to hear about a man who shouted out to Jesus in a very crowded place. But first, it's time to be curious!

Curiosity Questions

- What are some places large crowds gather?
- If you were in a large crowd and needed to be heard, what would you do?

Curiosity Activity: The Great Sound Matchup

- Let's play a game in which half of you will be making sounds and the rest of you will be listening very carefully!
- Have each kid pull a Sound Matchup Slip from the basket and not show it to anyone. Explain that when you say, "Go," kids whose slips include the words, "Make the sound of " will move throughout the room making that assigned sound. At the same time, kids whose slips include the words "Listen for " will move throughout the room listening for that sound. When the listener finds the person making their sound, they can compare slips. If they're a pair, they can link arms and sit down together. Invite kids to stand, and then say, "Go!"
- If time allows, play multiple rounds with kids pulling new slips each time. You can make it more challenging for the listeners by having kids whisper the sounds.
- **You all did a great job as listeners and noise makers! In God's big story today, we'll encounter a man who made a lot of noise to be heard above the crowd as Jesus walked by. This man was blind and unable to see, which means it's likely he would have developed a strong sense of hearing and have been very good at the game we just played!**
- **This man got to experience our Wonder Truth in a very personal way: JESUS HAS POWER TO HEAL.**

Word of Wonder Activity

- **Today in God's big story, we witnessed Jesus' power to heal when He healed Bartimaeus. Our Word of Wonder for the Now That's a Miracle! series tells of God's amazing power! Let's say the verse together.** Open your Bible to [Job 36:26a](#).
- **Let's practice our Word of Wonder!**
- Challenge kids to echo you by repeating the words in today's Word of Wonder. In the first few rounds, ask your group to echo you using a variety of voices (loud, soft, sad, excited, tired, high-pitched, etc.). Repeat until your group has mastered echoing your voice while saying the Word of Wonder. Next, challenge your group by asking them to mimic your movements (jumping jacks, hop on one foot, clap your hands, etc.) while repeating the Word of Wonder. In a final round, ask kids to repeat the verse while echoing your voice and repeating your movements.

Responding in Worship: My Comic Book Conversation With Jesus

- Today in God's big story, we learned about a man named Bartimaeus who couldn't see so he shouted to Jesus to be heard over the crowd. The people around Bartimaeus were annoyed by his shouting. But not Jesus. Jesus called Bartimaeus to Him, asked the man what he wanted Jesus to do for him, and then healed his eyesight. **Jesus has power to heal! And when we call out to Him, He hears us and answers.**
- **Let's look at the conversation Bartimaeus had with Jesus that day.** Invite volunteers to read each of the lines on the slide. Here they are for your reference (from [Mark 10:48–52](#)):
 - Bartimaeus: Jesus! Son of David! Have mercy on me! Jesus: What do you want Me to do for you?
 - Bartimaeus: Teacher, I want to be able to see. Jesus: Go ... your faith has healed you.
- **Wow! Bartimaeus had faith that Jesus could heal him, and he was healed!** Hand out a Comic Book Conversation Sheet to each kid and set out writing and coloring utensils.
- **Jesus invites us to call out to Him just like Bartimaeus did. He sees you and loves you. He knows what you've been through. He knows what you need from Him. And He invites you to tell Him about it. Let's spend time talking with Jesus now by creating a comic book conversation.** Hold up a copy of the Comic Book Conversation Sheet.
- **In each box is a bubble that mirrors the conversation Bartimaeus had with Jesus. In a moment, you'll draw pictures of yourself talking with Jesus and fill in your words to Jesus—which is your prayer— on the blank lines. Bartimaeus called Jesus "Son of David." What name do you want to call Jesus as you call out to Him today?** Invite several kids to share their ideas.
- **Go ahead and write it on the line in the first box.** Pause for kids to think and write.
- **In the next box, you'll see Jesus' words back to you: "What do you want Me to do for you?" What do you want to ask Jesus for today? Is there something you need healing for, either in your body or in your heart? Maybe you feel sick or your body feels sore. Maybe you've gone through something difficult that has caused you to feel sad, scared, or angry. Jesus has power to heal our bodies and our hearts. In the third box, you can write what you would like Jesus to heal or to do for you today. Go ahead and work on writing and drawing your conversation with Jesus in the first three boxes.**
- After a few minutes, draw kids' attention to the last box on their Comic Book Conversation Sheets. Invite a volunteer to read Jesus' words from that last bubble: "Go ... your faith has healed you." Then invite everyone to say Jesus' words together:
- **Go ... your faith has healed you. Wow! The words Jesus spoke to Bartimaeus are powerful words for us as well. May each of us keep bringing our hurts to Jesus and keep asking Him to heal us. Jesus loves us and wants us to be whole so we can walk with Him and experience a new and good way of living!**
- If time allows, encourage kids to continue working on their Comic Book Conversation Sheets. If they don't finish during the lesson, invite them to take them home to complete.

SMALL GROUP PRAYER

Today in God's big story, the man who was blind had no fear of Jesus ignoring him. Instead, he made a big bold ask of Jesus. Think quietly: **Is there a big bold ask you would like to make of Jesus? Maybe you or someone close to you needs Jesus' healing power. Let's spend time in prayer together.**

Invite kids to join you in a circle to spend time talking to Jesus. Ask whether anyone has a question, something they would like to share with Jesus, or a prayer request. Give each kid a chance to participate, then close in prayer, remembering to thank Jesus for loving us!