

LESSON 3

JESUS HEALS A MAN WHO IS BLIND

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Has Power to Heal

SCRIPTURE: [Mark 10](#)

GOD'S BIG STORY: Bartimaeus—who is blind—shouts out to Jesus from the roadside where he sits begging for money. Jesus asks what Bartimaeus needs then restores his eyesight, showing that Jesus has power to heal!

WORD OF WONDER: How great God is! We'll never completely understand Him. —[Job 36:26a](#)

FOUNDATION BUILDING BLOCKS

WHO?

Bartimaeus, a man who was blind, begged alongside the road to Jericho where many people passed by. He would have been viewed as an outcast because of his physical disability, and he would have depended solely on the money he received begging for his livelihood.

WHAT?

Bartimaeus cries out to Jesus, "Son of David!" ([Mark 10:47](#)). This was a Jewish title for the Messiah. When Jesus began His ministry, He read from Isaiah 61 as a declaration that the prophesy is fulfilled in Him. He is the Messiah who would recover "sight for the blind" ([Luke 4:18 NIV](#)).

WHERE?

Jericho in the Old Testament and Jericho in the New Testament are in two different locations. New Testament Jericho was near King Herod's palace, about a mile south of Old Testament Jericho. Jesus was likely walking between the two Jerichos on a well-traveled road.

WHEN?

After Jesus healed Bartimaeus, He headed into Jerusalem and toward the climax of His mission on earth—His death and resurrection.

CONNECTING TO GOD'S BIG STORY

After Bartimaeus is healed, he follows Jesus along the road to Jerusalem, where people welcome Jesus triumphantly as the One who would bring "the coming kingdom of our father David" ([Mark 11:10](#)). As Bartimaeus follows Him, Jesus literally ushers in the kingdom He has promised but in a way that few expect—through His death and resurrection.

Curiosity

Play Stations

Greet kids warmly as they arrive and briefly explain the play stations. Invite them to play at any of the play stations.

Welcome to church! While we're getting ready to start, you can play at any of these stations to help get ready for our lesson today. Do you have any ideas what we'll be learning about today?

Play Station: Sad to Happy

Set up: Set out play dough.

Play: Encourage the kids to make two small balls and one long snake-shape. Show the kids how to arrange the pieces into a face with two eyes and a mouth. Then show them how to make the mouth go down to make a sad face. Tell them that in part of the story they will be hearing today, there was a man who was sad because he couldn't see. Then show the kids how to make the mouth curve up into a smile and tell them Jesus healed the man and that made the man happy.

Play Station: What's Inside?

Set up: Place a variety of small objects (such as coins, buttons, blocks, dry beans, paper clips, etc.) into a pillowcase.

Play: Let the kids put their hands into the pillowcase and try to guess what's inside. Allow the kids to keep their hands in for a few seconds. When each kid has had a chance to guess, open the pillowcase to show what's inside. Explain that a person who is blind may discover what things are by using their sense of touch and feeling.

Make It Inclusive! Children who struggle with anxiety may be hesitant to reach into the pillowcase without knowing what is inside. Allow children to feel objects from outside the pillowcase, or tell children what objects are in the bag and let them guess which one they touched in the pillowcase.

Play Station: Jesus Heals a Man Who Is Blind Coloring Sheet

Set up: Ahead of time, print one copy per kid of the [coloring sheet](#) and set out coloring utensils

Play: Let the kids color. The kids can also turn the sheet over and draw a picture of their favorite sight they've ever seen.

Faith

Craft: Paper Plate Happy Face

Set out paper plates and markers or make a face stickers.

How did Jesus help the man in our story today? Allow the kids to respond. **Jesus changed his life by healing him so he could see! What do you think the first thing he saw was?** Allow the kids to respond. **How do you think he felt when he could finally see the world?** Allow the kids to respond. **Jesus showed His power and kindness by healing the man. Jesus shows power and kindness in our lives too. He helps us with sin, and He helps us any time we need help!**

How does it make you feel to know Jesus has the power to help you? Allow the kids to respond. **Let's make a face on our plates to show how we feel knowing Jesus has power and He helps us!**

Let the kids use the markers to draw and decorate a face on their plates.

We heard about Jesus healing Bartimaeus's eyes in our story today, and we can remember that Jesus has power to heal all kinds of things! Take your face plate home and use it to help you tell someone about how you feel knowing Jesus is powerful and helps us.

Active Game: Blindfold Walk

We're playing a game where you'll be able to imagine what it might be like to be blind like Bartimaeus was before he met Jesus.

Back then, people who were blind could not work and did not get a lot of help. They didn't have a lot of money or food. So they sat by the side of the road and begged people for money. That is what Bartimaeus was doing. When he heard Jesus coming, he shouted and asked Jesus for help. If he could see, his whole life would change. Bartimaeus knew Jesus had the power to heal him. He trusted Jesus to change his life. To trust is to have faith.

Divide the kids into groups with a leader for each group. The leader should help kids put on blindfolds or eye coverings and then help the children form a line, placing their hands on the shoulders or elbows of the person in front of them. The leader will lead the group around the room. If you do not have eye coverings, children can simply close their eyes.

You could also make a line of kids with their arms out (to protect the blindfolded kid) and let a kid wear a blindfold and walk on her own across the room. To make it more challenging, set out small objects on the ground and challenge the person to find and pick up the objects as you call them out.

How did you feel when you couldn't see? Allow kids to answer. **Why do you think Bartimaeus wanted to be healed?** Allow kids to answer. **How do you think Bartimaeus felt when Jesus healed him?** Allow the kids to answer. **Jesus has the power to heal!**

Identity

Prayer and Blessing

After the kids finish their activity, pray with them, thanking Jesus for having the power to heal. Ask them to think of someone who is sick or hurt or who needs help from Jesus.

God, thank You for always seeing and caring about us. Thank You for Your power of healing and help. Please heal those who are hurt or sick and help those who need help. We love You. In Jesus' name, Amen.

Encourage the kids to hold their hands out in front of them, with palms up, as if their hands are open to receive something. Tell them to listen and receive the blessing as you speak it over them.

Blessing: May you experience Jesus' healing power in your life! May God give you great faith to believe that Jesus can do what you need Him to do. God hears you, sees you, and loves you. You're special to Him!