

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!

SCRIPTURE: 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.

Activity: What Can You See?

Greet the kids warmly and welcome them to church.

Welcome! We're going to talk today about a man from the Bible who couldn't see. Let's imagine what it's like to not be able to see and get curious.

Ask the kids what we use to see with and help them point to or say, "eyes." **We see with our eyes. But what happens if we cover our eyes with our hands? We can't see! Let's try this together.** Put your hands over your eyes and show the kids how to do the same. Then count to three and have everyone take their hands off their eyes. **One, two, three, open!** Repeat this several times.

A person who can't see is blind. Have you seen a person with a dog leading them or a person walking with a white cane? Allow the kids to respond. **That person may be blind. People who are blind can do many things, but some things are not as easy for them.**

In our story from the Bible today, we'll hear about a man who went from not seeing to being able to see. Isn't that amazing? Allow the kids to respond. **We'll learn about how Jesus noticed him and helped him.**

Activity: What's Inside?

Before kids arrive, place several small toys inside the pillowcase.

People who can't see sometimes figure out what an object is by feeling it. That's what you're going to do by feeling what is inside this pillowcase.

Place the pillowcase in the middle of the floor. Let the kids put their hands in the pillowcase and try to guess what's inside. Allow the kids to keep their hands in for a few seconds. When each child has had a turn, open the pillowcase and show the objects.

We're going to talk today about a time when Jesus healed someone who couldn't see.

Our Wonder Truth today is: JESUS HAS POWER TO HEAL.

Encourage the kids to do the following motions while you repeat the Wonder Truth. Older toddlers can say the words with you as they do the motions.

JESUS—*Point up.*

HAS POWER—*Flex your muscles.*

TO HEAL—*Put your hands over your eyes and take them off quickly.*

Prayer and Blessing

Let's talk to God. We can thank Jesus because He is powerful and He cares for us.

God, thank You for always seeing and caring about us. Thank You for Your power to heal. 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: Jesus came to this earth to heal and save and tell of God's love. May you always delight in talking to Jesus. May Jesus' healing power be present in your life. May God give you great faith to believe Jesus is able to help you. Believe that God hears you, and God loves you. You are special to Him!

Activity: Bartimaeus Walk

We're going to play a game to help you learn what it would be like to not be able to see, like Bartimaeus was before he met Jesus. Gather two or three children. Help them form a line behind a leader and hold one hand of the person in front of them. The leader will lead them around the room. Tell the kids at several points to try closing their eyes for a second while they are being led, to experience what not seeing feels like. Repeat the activity until all of the kids have had a chance to participate. The activity can also be done with individual children holding the hand of a leader who leads them around the room.

Today we learned about a time when Jesus healed a man who couldn't see. God loves us and cares for us. Remember, Jesus has the power to heal!