



INTRODUCTION

In this passage, blind Bartimaeus recognizes Jesus as the Son of David, persistently cries out for mercy despite the crowd's opposition, and receives his sight when Jesus responds to his faith. From this we learn that true spiritual sight sees our desperate need for mercy, recognizes who Jesus is, and comes to Him with humble, persistent faith that ultimately leads us to follow Him.

INSTRUCTIONS

This guide is meant to facilitate discussion which will lead to a response to God's word. Therefore please use it as a tool that best fits the needs of your small group.

OPENING DISCUSSION

- What was the most interesting idea/concept about Sunday's sermon?
- What is your overall impression of Jesus in this passage?

REVIEW

- Have someone read **Mark 10.46-52**
- Why does the crowd rebuke Bart?
- What does the contrast between Bart and the crowds teach us about spiritual blindness? Why can someone have all the outward evidence of Jesus and still fail to see who He really is?
- What does Bart's plea reveal about his understanding of himself and of Jesus?
- Jesus asks both Bartimaeus and James/John the same question. What do you want me to do for you? What do their answers reveal about their desires and their view of Jesus?
- Why does Jesus stop?
- In what way is Bart a picture of a disciple?

APPLICATION

- What can cause us to become quiet or passive in our pursuit of Christ?
- What does persistent prayer look like when God doesn't answer as quickly or in the way we hope?
- How can we cultivate a faith that is both **bold and humble** rather than presumptuous?
- What do your prayers reveal about what you want most from Jesus?
- If Jesus asked you today, "**What do you want me to do for you?**", how would you answer?
- What do Jesus miracles show us?
- Are you ever been tempted to think more about what Jesus can **give you** than about simply being with and following Jesus?
- What would it look like this week to follow Jesus with the kind of joy and dependence Bartimaeus displayed?

PRAYER (divide the group based on gender if desired)

- What action/repentance does God want you to take according to the truths of this text?
- Are there any other prayer needs?