

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

- Welcome Question: Would you rather be in a crowded place or a quiet space? Why?
- Curiosity Questions
- Word of Wonder Activity
- God's Big Story
- Discussion Questions for Elementary Kids and Preteens
- Small Group Prayer Time
- LARGE GROUP
- Elementary Responding in Worship: Me Puzzle
- Preteen Responding in Worship: My Comic Book Conversation with Jesus



INVITATION

We invite you to pause, listen, and shift your gaze toward the Father ...

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WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Has Power to Heal

SCRIPTURE: Mark 10

WORD OF WONDER: Job 36:26a

When I'm sick, I spend a lot of time thinking about healing. I plead to God for a quick fix to whatever illness it is this time, thank Him once I'm feeling better—and then I move on. I forget how it felt to be sick. Until the next time.

Take a moment to read Mark 10:46–52. Jesus and His disciples are leaving Jericho when they encounter Bartimaeus, a man who is blind. When he hears that Jesus is there, he calls out for healing: “Jesus! Son of David! Have mercy on me!” (v. 47). Jesus responds and heals Bartimaeus. Bartimaeus is no longer blind, and he immediately begins following Jesus!

Would you?

When I recover from a cold, my life goes back to business as usual. I rarely make a change afterward. Sometimes my walk with Jesus looks like that too. He does something amazing, and I move on. But Jesus has something better in mind for us.

We all need healing from something, whether that is sickness, addiction, heartache, or other brokenness. The Bible gives us good news that Jesus has power to heal. Jesus' healing isn't a quick fix—it's utterly life-changing. It's an invitation to leave behind our old lives and follow Him.

What do you need healing from today? Jesus has power to heal, and He's ready for you to ask and follow Him.

—**Caroline Wiggins**

Children's Ministry Volunteer and Curriculum Intern

Wonder Ink Development Team

LESSON 3 FOR LEADERS
JESUS HEALS A MAN WHO IS BLIND

DID YOU KNOW?

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.

Small Group

Spark curiosity and get kids thinking about the wonder of God.

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Has Power to Heal

SCRIPTURE: Mark 10

WORD OF WONDER: Job 36:26a

Pre-Service Connection (15–20 min)

RESOURCES: whiteboard, poster paper, or butcher paper, writing utensils, board games or games

[Games & Activities Guide](#)

Small group leaders should be seated in place in their small groups 20 minutes prior to service time. Have activities ready to keep children occupied and engaged WITH you. This time is important to build relationships, welcome new kids, and keep structure in the room - you should be an active participant with them! Learn the kids names, and make sure they all know yours too!

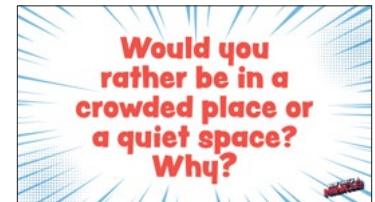
As kids arrive ...

Warmly welcome new friends, and introduce them to your group.

Use the Welcome Question and the following "I'm Curious" questions to engage kids. Say "I'm curious.." before each question and give kids an chance to think before answering each one. After each question, consider having kids share their ideas with a neighbor before you call on one or two of them to share with the group.

Consider having a whiteboard or poster for kids to write or draw answers to any of the questions:

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



Word of Wonder Activity

WORD OF WONDER

How great God is! We'll never completely understand him.

—Job 36:26a (NirV)

SUPPLIES: Bible

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. Invite kids to read Job 36:26a several times together.

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.

Leader Tip: For Preteens. Invite kids to take turns leading this activity!

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bibles (1 per kid)

Explain that today's story can be found in the second half of the Bible called the New Testament. It's in the book of Mark, chapter 10, verses 46–52. Invite kids to open their Bibles and work together to locate this passage.

As Jesus was leaving Jericho, a blind man named Bartimaeus called out to Him for mercy. Even when others tried to silence him, Bartimaeus trusted that Jesus could help. This story shows us that faith speaks up and that Jesus listens and responds with compassion and power.

[Read Mark 10:46–52 together.](#)

Elementary Questions

- **Who was sitting by the side of the road?** (*Bartimaeus*)
- **What was the man who was blind doing before Jesus came along?** (*begging for money*)
- **What did the man who was blind ask Jesus to do for him?** (*He wanted to be able to see.*)
- **Do you think Bartimaeus was surprised when he could see? Why or why not?**
- **Do you think there's anything Jesus doesn't have the power to do? Why do you think that?**
- **If Jesus asked you, "What do you want me to do for you?" what would you tell Him?**

Today in God's big story, the man who was blind had no fear of Jesus ignoring him. Instead, he made a big bold request of Jesus. Think quietly: Is there a big bold request 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.

Leader Tip: Remind kids that while Jesus has power to heal, it doesn't mean He will answer every request the way we have in mind. Jesus immediately healed Bartimaeus. But sometimes, Jesus chooses to delay healing or wait until we're with Him in heaven to heal. No matter the timing, Jesus hears us, loves us, and promises that one day everyone who trusts in Him will be completely healed forever!

Preteen 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?**

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.

Small Group Prayer Time

Invite kids to share any prayer requests or praises they have. If they or someone they know needs physical healing, invite them to quietly ask God for healing or to share their needs with the group so everyone can pray for them together. Close by thanking God for His power to heal and for seeing and loving each person in the group.

Head to Large Group!

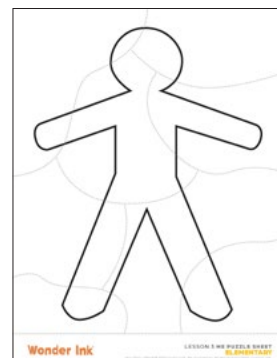
Return and finish the rest of this guide before parents arrive.

Elementary Responding in Worship: Me Puzzle

SUPPLIES: coloring utensils, whiteboard, dry-erase marker, kid-safe scissors, construction paper (1 sheet per kid plus 1), glue sticks, markers

RESOURCES: [Me Puzzle Sheet \(1 per elem kid\)](#), [Now That's a Miracle! Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

Ahead of time, print a copy of the Me Puzzle Sheet for each kid plus one. Decorate the person outline on one of the Me Puzzle Sheets to look like you so that you can use it as an example throughout the activity. Write the following words in large print on a whiteboard: "Jesus Has Power to Heal ... Me." Give a Me Puzzle Sheet to each kid. **The person on your sheet represents you!** Show kids the sample Me Puzzle Sheet that you decorated ahead of time to look like you. **Let's spend a couple minutes decorating our people. You can add clothes, hair, and facial features so that it looks like you! Just make sure you can still see the puzzle piece lines when you're done.**



Set out coloring utensils and give kids time to decorate their people. Once kids have decorated the people on their Me Puzzle Sheets, continue.

Today in God's big story, Jesus healed Bartimaeus. But what He gave Bartimaeus was more than just the ability to see with his eyes. Jesus gave Bartimaeus a whole new way of living! Jesus has power to heal. He loves us and wants us to be whole, so we can walk with Him and experience a new and good way of living! While sometimes Jesus heals our physical bodies, He has power to heal the hurt in our hearts that others can't see.

Hold up your Me Puzzle Sheet and start slowly cutting out the puzzle pieces as you continue. **Every one of us has experienced hurt. Maybe we've been sick or injured, or maybe we've gone through difficult things that have caused you to feel sad or scared. Sometimes the hurt we have leaves us feeling broken.** Hold up your Me Puzzle Sheet person, which is now cut into pieces. **Jesus sees you and loves you. He knows what you've been through. He knows the ways you feel broken on the outside and the inside. He wants to heal you and make you whole.** In front of the kids, reconstruct your puzzle by gluing the pieces onto a sheet of construction paper. Then with kids watching, use a marker to write these words across the top of the paper: "Jesus Has Power to Heal ... Me."

Set out construction paper, glue sticks, and markers. **Let's spend time talking with Jesus now as we cut our puzzle pieces out and glue them back together on a sheet of construction paper. Tell Him about any ways you feel broken. It might be something you feel in your body or an emotion you feel in your heart. He loves you, and He loves when you talk with Him!** Then ask Jesus to help you and heal you. Ask Him to make you whole as you walk with Him! Give kids time to work and pray. When they finish gluing their puzzle onto construction paper, invite them to write "Jesus Has Power to Heal ... Me" across the top in marker.

Point out the words on the whiteboard that they can look at for guidance. Consider playing music from the [Now That's a Miracle! Elementary Spotify playlist](#) during this time.

Leader Tip: This activity may prompt kids to experience some big feelings. For kids who have experienced trauma or abuse, the hurt they feel is profound. It's common for kids to either shut down and not engage with anyone (or with the activity) or to act out in ways that seem distracting. Remember that kids' actions communicate what they're feeling on the inside. Be present. Sit with them even when there isn't anything to say. Your presence and no-strings-attached love will give them a glimpse of how Jesus feels about them!

Preteen Responding in Worship: My Comic Book Conversation with Jesus

SUPPLIES: writing utensils, coloring utensils

RESOURCES: [Comic Book Conversation Sheet \(1 per preteen\)](#) [Jesus and Bartimaeus Conversation Sheet 2/SG](#). [Now That's a Miracle! Elementary Spotify playlist](#)

Ahead of time, print a copy of the Comic Book Conversation Sheet for each kid.

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

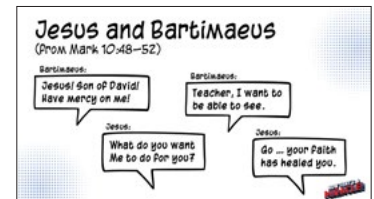
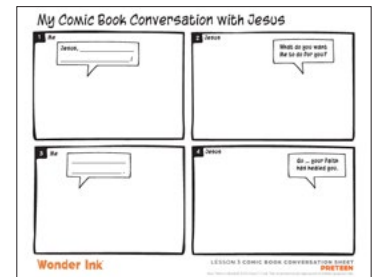
Jesus to do for him, and then healed his eyesight. Jesus has power to heal! And when we call out to Him, He hears us and answers. Let's look at the conversation Bartimaeus had with Jesus that day. Invite volunteers to read each of the lines on the Jesus and Bartimaeus Sheet Here they are for your reference (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 our 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. Give kids time to think, pray, write, and draw. Play music from the [Now That's a Miracle! Elementary Spotify playlist](#) quietly in the background.

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.

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