

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

- Play Stations:
 - Sad to Happy
 - What's Inside?
 - Jesus Heals a Man Who Is Blind Coloring Sheet
- Word of Wonder: Job 36:26a
- God's Big Story
- Circle Time: Musical Questions
- LARGE GROUP
- Responding in Worship: Mural Prayer
- Game: Blindfold Walk





LESSON 3 FOR LEADERS

INVITATION

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

LESSON AT A GLANCE

WONDER TRUTH: Jesus Has Power to Heal

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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.



LESSON 3 EARLY CHILDHOOD

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

Play Stations

SUPPLIES: play dough, variety of small objects (such as coins, buttons, blocks, dry beans, paper clips, etc.), pillowcase, coloring utensils

RESOURCES: [Jesus Heals a Man Who Is Blind Coloring Sheet \(1 per kid\)](#)

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.

Word of Wonder

WORD OF WONDER

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

—Job 36:26a

Our Word of Wonder for the Now That's a Miracle! series is Job 36:26a. Let's practice saying the Word of Wonder together.

Encourage the kids to do the motions and say the verse with you.

- **HOW GREAT**—Put one arm straight up for each word.
- **GOD IS!**—Point up.
- **WE'LL NEVER**—Cross arms back and forth in front of you.
- **COMPLETELY**—Bring both arms down from above you to your sides.
- **UNDERSTAND**—Point to your head with both hands.
- **HIM.**—Point up.
- **JOB 36:26a**—Hold your hands together in front of you, palms open, as if opening a book.

In today's story, we saw how great and powerful Jesus is when He healed a man's eyesight. Jesus can do anything! He's powerful, and He cares for us. What is something else great that Jesus has done? Allow the kids to respond. Jesus told the man that his faith made him well. Faith is believing and trusting in Jesus. Bartimaeus believed so much that he called out to Jesus loudly. We can have faith and call out to Jesus too. You can do it loudly or quietly ... or however you want! Let's practice calling out our verse in different voices.

Review the verse with the kids several times, then encourage them to say the verse in following ways:

- In the loudest voice they can
- In the quietest voice they can
- While spinning in circles
- While jumping up and down
- While dancing

Gather kids to discuss these questions:

- **Share about a time when you celebrated God and His greatness.**
- **What does it mean to have faith in God?** (If the kids need help, offer ideas such as: trusting God, believing in Him, living for Him.)

God's Big Story

SUPPLIES: Bible; [Bible Story Picture \(1/SG\)](#)

Bible Time Rhyme

Say the Bible time rhyme (with motions) each week before the Bible story to remind kids that what they're about to hear is part of God's big story.

I open my Bible, and what do I see? (Hold your hands together, then open your palms, as if opening a book.)

God's big story, waiting for me! (Point to yourself.)

Let's hear part of God's big story, which comes from the book of Mark in the Bible. Today we are reading about a man who could not see and really wanted help from Jesus. Many people tried to make him be quiet, but he did not stop calling out. Listen to hear how Jesus listened to him, showed kindness, and changed his life.

[Read God's Big Story script below from Mark 10:46–52.](#)

Jesus was walking through a town called Jericho with a big crowd. Pretend to walk in place. A man named Bartimaeus sat by the road. He could not see. Cover your eyes gently with your hands.

Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was coming. Cup your hand to your ear. He called out loudly, "Jesus, help me!" Put your hands around your mouth and call out.

Some people told Bartimaeus to be quiet. Shake your head no. But Bartimaeus called out even louder. Call out again with a big voice.

Jesus stopped. Freeze in place. Jesus asked for Bartimaeus to come to Him. Reach your hand forward.

Jesus asked Bartimaeus what he wanted. Jesus listened carefully. Point to your ears. Bartimaeus said he wanted to see. Open your eyes wide.

Jesus said, "You can see now." Remove your hands from your eyes and smile big. Right away, Bartimaeus could see. Look around the room with excitement.

Bartimaeus followed Jesus and thanked God. Walk in place again and clap your hands.

Visual or tangible idea: Give each child a paper heart or a small paper circle. Have them hold it over their eyes at the beginning of the story and lower it when Bartimaeus can see. Explain that Jesus sees us, hears us, and cares about us.

Circle Time: Musical Questions

SUPPLIES: construction paper (at least 7 colors, 1 sheet per kid), marker

RESOURCES: upbeat song from the [Now That's a Miracle! Early Childhood Spotify playlist](#)

Ahead of time, prepare an upbeat song from the Now That's a Miracle! Early Childhood Spotify playlist. Select a variety of colors of sheets of construction paper (one sheet for each kid). Write numbers 1–7 on seven different colors of paper. Leave all of the other sheets of paper blank, with no number written on it. Then turn the papers upside down. Put all the papers in a large circle on the floor of your room.

Leader Tip: If your floor is slick, consider taping the paper to the ground so it stays in place. If you tape it, make sure to write the numbers on the corner of the paper so kids can see the number.

In the God's big story we heard today, we learned about how Jesus noticed a man who was blind and healed him. We're going to play a game to see what we remember from the story! Jesus paid attention to Bartimaeus and listened to him when he called out. You'll have to pay attention and notice what I'm calling out. In this game, you'll walk around the circle of papers while music plays. When the music stops, jump to the nearest sheet of paper. I'll call out a color. If you're on that color, pick up your paper and see if it has a number on the back. If it does, you'll answer the question that goes with that number. Then you'll all put your papers back, and we'll keep playing until all the questions have been answered.

Start the music and encourage the kids to walk around the circle of papers on the floor. Stop the music periodically and let the kids move to a paper. Then call out a color and encourage the kids with that color to look for a number. Whoever has that color of paper with a number on it will answer the question that corresponds with that number from the list below.

Continue playing until all questions have been correctly answered.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Who was the man Jesus helped?** (*Bartimaeus*)
2. **What was the man doing before Jesus came along?** (*sitting by the side of the road*)
3. **What did the man ask Jesus to do for him?** (*have mercy on him; help him*)
4. **How did Jesus help the man?** (*Jesus healed the man so he could see.*)
5. **Do you think Jesus cared for the man?**
6. **How has Jesus shown care for you in your life?**
7. **What does this story show us about Jesus and His power?**

Today in God's big story, Jesus used His power to heal and give sight to a man who couldn't see. Jesus cared about the man, and Jesus cares about you too! Let's spend some time in prayer and ask God for His healing power in our lives. You may not be sick or hurt now, but Jesus has power to help us with anything we need help with!

Invite kids to share prayer requests and praises and to pray for each other. Some kids may not be comfortable praying out loud. That's OK! Encourage them to pray silently and thank God for hearing us and caring about us. God hears all our prayers!

Head to Large Group!

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

Responding in Worship: Prayer Mural

SUPPLIES: butcher/roll paper (5'-8' feet per small group), marker, stickers (I wers, hearts, happy faces, celebration stickers.), glue sticks, reusable adhesive or mounting tape, decorative stickers (optional)

RESOURCES: [Prayer Mural Sheet \(1 / 4 kids\)](#)

Ahead of time, print the Prayer Mural Sticker Sheet printable and cut apart. You can also provide other stickers which can be used for decorating, such as flowers, hearts, happy faces, celebration stickers.

How do you think it makes Jesus feel when we ask Him for help? Allow the kids to respond. **He wants us to come to Him for anything we need. He loves to hear from us. In the case of Bartimaeus, Jesus heard the man call out, and Jesus called Bartimaeus to come to Him.**

What do you want to say to Jesus today? What do you want to ask Him to help you with? Is there someone in your life who needs healing?

Allow the kids to respond.

Spread out the roll paper in front of your group. Set out sticker sheets.

Jesus has the power to heal. He sees you. In this time, we're going to make a giant picture as a way to say that Jesus has the power to heal and that He hears us.

Write "Jesus Has Power to Heal" in big letters in the middle. Then give the kids stickers to decorate around the words. Display the finished mural on a wall or hallway in your children's ministry area using reusable adhesive or mounting tape.



Make It Inclusive: Consider ways you can accommodate all kids, including those who are not able to sit on the floor or at a table for this project. Fasten the mural paper to a wall at a kid's eye level where kids can stand to add stickers. Or allow children to individually add stickers to blank pieces of paper that can be added to the mural.

Active Game: Blindfold Walk

SUPPLIES: eye coverings such as blindfolds (1 per kid; optional), small objects (optional)

Leader Tip: Clean disposable face masks can be used over eyes if you have these available.

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!**

Make It Inclusive: Be particularly sensitive to kids in your group who are blind or have low vision. Let them know ahead of time about the story they'll be learning, so they're not surprised by it. Some kids may want to share with the group about their own experiences as a person with limited sight while others will not, so be sure to talk with them beforehand.