

Beulah Baptist Church
Rev. Jerry D. Black, Pastor

Sunday School Lesson
September 19, 2021
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Lesson—Glorifying God

Text: Mark 10:46—52

I. Aim for Change/Learning Objectives

By the end of this lesson, we will...

1. *COMPARE* and contrast spiritual and physical blindness,
2. *APPRECIATE* how God is attentive and responds to our needs, and
3. *PRACTICE* reaching out to those who are marginalized by society.

Key Verse— “*And Jesus answered and said unto him, What wilt thou that I should do unto thee? The blind man said unto him, Lord, that I might receive my sight.*” (Mark 10:51, KJV)

II. People Places and Times

Jericho. A city about fifteen miles east from Jerusalem, near the Jordan River, Jericho was the home of a large population of priests who served the temple in Jerusalem. The tax collector Zacchaeus also lived in Jericho (Luke 19). It was the first city Joshua’s forces destroyed as they occupied the Promised Land (Joshua 6:20). Joshua spoke a curse upon anyone who dared to rebuild it, but it was rebuilt anyway, again becoming an important trading center.

Jesus’ Titles.

- The crowd calls Him “Jesus of Nazareth” (v. 47), recognizing His humanity and the city of His upbringing.
- Bartimaeus calls Him “Son of David” (vv. 47–48), recognizing His Jewish heritage and perhaps His royal lineage.
- Bartimaeus also calls Jesus “Rabboni” which means “my teacher” (v. 51).
- Rabbi is the highly respected position of a master spiritual teacher in Jewish society.

III. Background

As He leaves Jericho, Jesus is closing the second phase of His ministry. He is on His way to Jerusalem where, as He has prophesied, He will be condemned by His own people and then handed over to the Roman authorities who will treat Him cruelly and crucify Him. However, Jesus assured His disciples that His death was not His final destiny and that on the third day He would be resurrected (Mark 10:33-34). In a sense, Bartimaeus’s blindness is a metaphor that can be applied to all of Chapter 10.

IV. The Lesson At-A-Glance...

1. *Faith Uses Available Resources* (Mark 10:46–47)
2. *Faith Answers Objections* (vv. 48–50)
3. *Faith Makes Specific Requests* (vv. 51–52)

V. In Depth with More Light on the Text

1. Faith Uses Available Resources (Mark 10:46–47)

When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus of Nazareth was passing by, he used his available resources to get Jesus’ healing. He could not see, but he could hear. So he used his ears. He could not see, but he could think. So he used his brain to recall Jesus’ reputation. He could not see, but he could use his voice. So he cried out loudly, “Jesus, thou son of David, have mercy on me” (10:47).

2. Faith Answers Objections (vv. 48–50)

Some people in the crowd tried to quiet Bartimaeus. He was a lowly beggar in their eyes, and Jesus was an important teacher. But Bartimaeus would not be quiet, primarily because he knew that the people who were shushing him could afford to be quiet because they could see! He continued calling until Jesus responded.

3. Faith Makes Specific Requests (vv. 51–52)

Jesus asked Bartimaeus, “What do you want me to do for you?” (v. 51). Brother Bart didn’t hem and haw; he said immediately, “I want to see again.” Actually, this was Bartimaeus’s second request. His first request was for mercy (v. 48). Now that his cry for mercy had caught Jesus’ attention, he proceeded to ask for healing. When we want Jesus’ attention, we should not scream about our virtues, talents, resources, or assets. Ask Him for mercy. If He gives you mercy, as He certainly will, He will surely give you everything that goes along with it.

Liberating Lesson—See Sunday School Book...

Application for Activation—See Sunday School Book...

Food for Thought and Questions for Consideration?

1. Which would you rather have, or ask Jesus for—mercy or healing?
2. What do you do when the Lord blesses you, or what are you willing to do?

Vocabulary-New Words

Notes: _____

