

## LESSON PLAN

### BLIND BARTIMAEUS IS HEALED

Mark 10:32-52

**Lesson Memory Verse:** Ephesians 2:8 - **“For by grace are you saved through faith;** and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God.” (Grades 1 & 2 memorize the portion in **bold**.)

**Lesson Aim:** To teach the meaning of faith in Jesus Christ.

**Lesson Plan:** Use the KEY – HE – SEE – WE – BE plan (explained in the Introductory Notes).

**KEY (for Attention):** What do you think it would be like to be blind? (Let them give their answers.) To get an idea of what it is like to be blind, close your eyes and pretend that you are going to school without being able to see. Tell us what problems you think you would have.

Did you know that a lot of people are blind that can see very well with their eyes? They are spiritually blind. They do not see (understand) God's ways of doing things. They do not see God's way to allow sinners into Heaven. They are blind. In fact, we are all born spiritually blind and remain blind until we ask Jesus to be our Savior. Then He takes away our spiritual blindness so we can begin to see God's ways of doing things.

**HE (for Authority):** Our Bible memory verse for today shows us how Jesus Christ can take away our spiritual blindness. It is done by God's grace and our faith. God's **grace** in this verse is the gift of His Son, Who died for our sins and rose again so that we can have eternal life. Our **faith** is the trust we have in God's word about Jesus Christ's ability to save us from our sins. When we have faith in God's word do what He says, we will be saved and our spiritual blindness will be taken away. Then we will begin to understand God and see His ways of doing things.

**SEE (for Apperception) and WE (for Application): PLEASE do not read these comments until you have read the Scripture for this lesson. First let the Holy Spirit teach you directly from His Word.** In our lesson today we are going to learn that faith will cause us to see things as God sees them, but without that faith we will remain spiritually blind.

#### I. Faith and Jesus Christ - Mark 10:32-34

**A. Faith in Christ will remove your fears (10:32).** Jesus' disciples were afraid to follow Him to Jerusalem because they knew that the leaders in Jerusalem hated Him and would try to kill Him. Jesus knew that, too, but He had faith in His Father's plan. He could see that His plan was best, so He was not afraid of His enemies. His disciples did not have faith in Jesus' plan. They thought He was making a big mistake (see Mark 8:31-33). They could not see what Jesus saw, so they were afraid to go to Jerusalem.

**WE:** Do we have faith to follow Jesus and not be afraid? Can we trust His plans for our lives even when they do not seem like they are the best? Read Mark 8:34-38 and Isaiah 55:8-9. Our faith in God's plans will cause us to see that His way is always the best way. We must do what He says in the Bible.

**B. Faith in Christ will remove all doubts (10:33-34).** Jesus' disciples needed to believe everything that He said about Himself. They were quick to believe that He was going to become the King of Israel, but they were not ready to believe that He was going to die on the cross; even though He said it several times and then rise from the dead. They could not understand this and so they doubted what He said to them (Lk 18:31-34). Their faith was not perfect so they were blind in some areas.

**WE:** We need to believe everything that Jesus said about Himself. He is God and tells us the truth. We now know that He had to die and rise from the dead to save us from our sins. Now we need to believe what He said about His second coming, so we will be doing what He commanded us to do. Our faith in the words of Jesus will cause us to see, but our lack of faith in them will cause us to be blind.

#### II. Faith and Our Pride - Mark 10:35-45

**A. Faith in Jesus will cause you to be humble (10:35-41).** James and John were not humble when they asked Jesus to give them the two most important positions in His Kingdom. They were proud and never thought to let Jesus make that decision. They only thought of themselves. They wanted to ask for these positions before someone else asked for them. Jesus refused to promise them any position. That was a decision to be made by His Father in Heaven. When the other disciples heard about their

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request, they were offended. James and John caused a problem by their pride. They should have been thinking about the other disciples and their needs. If they had been humble, they would not have asked Jesus to give them these important positions in His Kingdom.

**WE:** We must tell Jesus that we will do whatever He wants us to do. This is how a humble person will act. How can you learn to be humble in your home? (Obey your parents even when you think your way is better. Also, think of ways you can help your brothers and sisters instead of fighting with them. When you fight with them, you are being proud.) Faith in Jesus will make you want to be humble like He was.

**B. Faith in Jesus will cause you to serve others (10:42-45).** Jesus called His disciples together and told them that unsaved people like to rule over others, because it makes them feel important. But saved people do not act that way. A person with faith in Jesus wants to serve others. Good believers want to serve others. Better believers are more humble and they want to serve others more (10:42-44). Jesus was the most humble servant of all: He healed the sick, fed the hungry, raised the dead and died for sinners. He was a humble servant in His life, but He was more humble in His death. He truly was the greatest servant of all (10:45). Those who put their faith in Jesus have His example and His power to be humble servants for God.

**WE:** We need faith in Jesus that will enable us to humble ourselves and serve others. If you want to rule over your brothers and sisters, you are proud and do not see things as God sees them-- you have spiritual blindness. But if you want to help your brothers and sisters, you are humble and can see the right way to live in your home. If you are helpful in your home, you are seeing things as God sees them—you have spiritual sight.

### III. Faith and Blind Bartimaeus - Mark 10:46-52

In the wonderful story of Bartimaeus, a blind man that was healed near the city of Jericho, we have an example of his faith in Jesus Christ.

A. He heard Jesus had come to Jericho and he called for His help. He asked for His mercy (10:47).

**WE:** We need to learn to call for Jesus' help. He wants to help us, especially if we have accepted Him as our Savior. Even so, we must come to Him humbly, asking for His mercy. We do not deserve His help.

B. He called again and again, even when people told him to keep quiet (10:48).

**WE:** We must not give up in our prayers, but keep asking Jesus to take care of our need until He answers us. If you need salvation, He will give you eternal life. Then the Holy Spirit will help you to see spiritual truth.

C. He heard Jesus' call and quickly came to Jesus (10:49-50).

**WE:** We have received a call from Jesus (Matt 11:28-30; Rev 3:20). Now we need to respond quickly and go to Him, whether we need to be saved (Isa 55:6), or need to be helped in our Christian life (Heb 11:6).

D. He asked for his eyes to be healed (10:51).

**WE:** We need to tell Jesus exactly what we want Him to do.

E. He had faith that Jesus would heal him (10:52). Bartimaeus received his sight.

**WE:** We must believe that Jesus Christ will answer our prayers. He is not pleased, if we have doubts.

F. He followed Jesus (10:52). Bartimaeus had his physical eyes healed, because his spiritual eyes had been healed when he put his faith in Jesus. Now he wanted to follow Jesus because He loved Him.

**WE:** When we are saved, we will want to follow Jesus, because He has been so good to us.

**BE (for Action):** (Have the children bow their heads.) If you want to have eternal life, you must have faith in Jesus to save you. Ask Him in faith and He will do it. If you want me to help you, raise your hand and I will help you after the class is dismissed. If you have spiritual blindness as a Christian because you do not have faith in Jesus (you are afraid of His ways or you doubt His words), confess your lack of faith in Him and ask Him to forgive you. If you have been proud or unwilling to serve others, it is sin. Confess it and ask Jesus to forgive you. He will do it and you will begin to see things the way God sees them.