

Sunday between October 23 and 29 – year B

Preparation

Read the Gospel [Mark 10:46-52](#) over. Pay attention to the words or phrases that jump at you. Read over the lesson so that you are familiar with what is intended to happen. Gather the materials that you will need for each section of the lesson. For deeper thinking or for ways to extend the lesson take a look at the following websites:

<http://www.textweek.com/yearb/properb25.htm>

<http://www.msscrafter.com/newtestament/jesusheals.htm>

http://daniellesplace.com/html/bible_themes_l_m.html#blindman: go to activities

<http://www.sundayschoollessons.com/proper25mk.htm>

<http://www.sermons4kids.com/i-want-to-see-jesus.html>

<http://www.word-sunday.com/Files/b/30-b/F-30-b.html>

Gathering

Materials needed

- Small table or end of one table
- Candle
- Candle lighter
- Bible and bookmark
- Green cloth
- Newsprint and markers
- Small votive candles

Print up the prayer on the newsprint so that the readers can say the prayer with you. Gather around the small table or at the end of one table. With the children place the cloth on the table. Have them help you place the candle and the Bible on the cloth. Light the candle. Then have each child place a small votive candle by the large candle. As you light their candles say, *We are so happy that (name of child) is with us today.* Pray the following prayer together:

For a time to learn and grow, thank you God.

For friends to share and love, thank you Jesus.

For the time to pray and listen, thank you Holy Spirit. Amen.

Blow out the candles. Put the four objects into the bag without the children seeing what you are doing. One by one have each child place their hand in the bag and grab one of the items without bringing it out and have them describe it to the other children. See if anyone can correctly guess what the item is. When everyone has had a turn, ask the children how it was to describe what they were feeling without seeing it. Explain that there are people who do can't see (are blind) and this is how the world feels to them until they know what an object is and have it described to them. Tell the children that in today's story they will hear about a blind man who asked Jesus to do something for him.

Story Time

Materials needed

- Question mark poster made with previous lesson
- Mercy image at end of lesson
- Scissors, glue stick

Instructions

Copy the mercy image from the end of the lesson and cut it out. Set it with the glue stick near the poster. Place the question mark poster where the children can see it through the lesson.

Jesus and his friends came to Jericho. They were busy teaching and healing the people. They were getting ready to leave Jericho and make their way to Jerusalem. They passed by a blind man who was sitting on the side of the road. His name was Bartimaeus. Bartimaeus asked one of the people going by what was going on. They told him that Jesus and his friends were getting ready to leave Jericho.

All of a sudden Bartimaeus started to shout. He said in a loud voice, “Jesus of Nazareth, have mercy on me.”

The people standing by him tried to get him to be quiet. This just made Bartimaeus shout even more loudly, “Jesus of Nazareth, have mercy on me.”

Jesus stopped walking and called out, “Bring the man to me.”

The people around Bartimaeus told him, “Jesus is calling to you. He wants you to come over to him.”

So Bartimaeus leapt up and threw off his cloak and ran over to Jesus. When he got to Jesus, Jesus asked him, “What do you want from me?”

Bartimaeus answered him by saying, “Jesus, teacher, have mercy on me and let me see again.”

Jesus looked with compassion at Bartimaeus and said, “Go my son. Your faith has made you well.”

Immediately Bartimaeus was able to see! He followed Jesus and his friends as they went on their way out of Jericho.

Question Mark Poster

Direct the children’s attention to the question mark in the middle of the poster. Ask someone to remember why they put up a cross, the welcome sign, the jug & cup, the blessing, the kingdom and servant images from the previous weeks. With the children think about all the questions that were asked in today’s story – what do you want from Jesus? Ask them what the answers to the questions were - for Jesus to have mercy and heal. Show them the mercy image. Have one of the children glue it into the sixth space. Explain that for the next few weeks they will be adding something to the poster to help them remember each week’s story.

Response

Project Idea 1: Get Well Card

With this response the children will be able to share their concerns for the sick in the church community.

Materials needed

- card stock
- markers
- tissue paper
- simple plastic bandages
- glitter
- scissors, glue sticks

Instructions

Fold the card stock in half. For younger children print “**Get-Well Blessings**” on the front of the card and on the inside “**God be with you**”. Let the older children do the printing themselves. Suggest to the children that they use the tissue paper, bandages and glitter to decorate their cards. Get them to sign their names on each of the cards that have been made. Tell the children that you will give the cards to the people in the church community that visit the sick and make sure that they take the cards with them to those people. Remind the children how happy Bartimaeus was Jesus healed him and to think about how happy those who are not well will be in getting the cards from them.

Project Idea 2: Healing Picture

This response will be especially good with younger children and give them something concrete to take home with them.

Materials needed

- the following colouring picture:
<http://www.sermons4kids.com/healing-blind-bart-colorpg.htm>
- crayons
- fine line markers
- simple plastic bandages
- construction paper
- glue sticks

Instructions

Make copies of the colouring picture – so that each child has one. Give each child a copy of the picture and have them colour it in with the crayons and/or fine line markers. When they are done have them glue it onto a piece of construction paper and stick on some of the bandages. If they want they could title it “**Jesus Heals the Blind Man**”. Encourage the children to share the story of Jesus healing the blind man with their families when they get the picture home.

Project Idea 3: Emergency Kits

Many times we need extra help, just like Bartimaeus, so this response will help the children share that healing help with others.

Materials needed

- small boxes with lids or small plastic containers with lids
- boxes of plastic bandages (the number will depend on the number of children in the group)
- small candles
- books of matches
- safety pins
- sharpie markers
- anything else you think might be useful

Instructions

Lay out the containers/boxes and the things to go in them in front of the children. Explain that they are going to make emergency kits for their families that they can put in their homes or vehicles. Remind them that Bartimaeus needed people to help him get to Jesus and all of us need help to get well from time to time as well. Get them to print “**Emergency Kit**” on the container/box in a space that works for them. Then have them fill the container with some of each of things that have been provided. Remind the children that the items in the kit are for adults to use to help take care of their family. Encourage the children to share the story of Bartimaeus’ healing with their families when they give them their kits.

Closing

Gather with the children around the worship table again. Relight the candles. Say the prayer line by line and encourage the children to repeat it after you:

**Loving God surround us with your care,
Friend Jesus be with us each day,
Holy Spirit move us to show your love,
Amen.**

Mercy Image

