

Thirtieth Sunday of the Year

Master, let me see!

INTRODUCTION

God gives us the gift of our five senses: touch, taste, hearing, smell, and sight. Often we take these for granted and give them little thought. Today we hear how a blind man named Bartimaeus begs Jesus to take pity on him and cure his blindness.

SIGN OF THE CROSS

LIGHT THE CANDLES

Light the candles and read:

A blind person cannot see the candle flame flickering in the darkness, but he or she can feel the warmth of its glow. Jesus is the light of the world; we see him in the people around us and feel the warmth of his love in their lives.

SORRY

The words of St. Paul remind us that as Christians, we are called to follow Christ and live as he taught us:

You are God's chosen people. Always be ready to care for others and to be kind and gentle. Be patient and calm, and never boast about or be proud of your goodness. Just as God always forgives you, so you must always be forgiving towards others. Fill your hearts with love, and whatever you do, do it for God.

(Colossians 3:12-13, 23)

GLORIA

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia, alleluia.

Open my eyes to see you
in the world around me, Lord.

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL (MARK 10:46-52)

Jesus and his followers were leaving Jericho, when they passed a blind beggar called Bartimaeus sitting at the roadside. When he heard that Jesus of Nazareth had passed by, Bartimaeus began to shout loudly, "Jesus, have pity and help me!"

The crowd told him to calm down and be quiet, but Bartimaeus kept on shouting until Jesus heard his cries. "Bring that man to me," said Jesus, and they led Bartimaeus to him. "What can I do for you?" he asked, and Bartimaeus said, "Master, let me see!"

Then Jesus told him, "Go. Because you believe in me, your sight has returned." Suddenly Bartimaeus could see clearly, and he set off at once to follow Jesus.

DISCUSSION

Why was Bartimaeus begging at the roadside? Because he could not see, Bartimaeus was unable to work to earn enough money to feed and clothe himself. He had to beg from passers-by and rely on their kindness and generosity to save him from starvation.

What would you miss most if you could not see? (Encourage the children to share their thoughts.)

Bartimaeus believed that Jesus could cure his blindness, and save him from a life of misery. When he heard Jesus passing by, Bartimaeus shouted loudly to attract Jesus' attention and did not give up even when the crowd told him to be quiet.

When he heard Bartimaeus' cry for help, Jesus did not let him down but healed him. Bartimaeus then followed Jesus because his heart and mind—as well as his eyes—had been opened by God's love. Because of his faith, he could "see" with his heart that Jesus was, indeed, the son of God.

ACTIVITY

Assemble copies of the illustrated story into mini-books, which can then be read aloud and colored by the children.

CREED

CLOSING PRAYER

Dear Jesus, today we pray
for blind people everywhere
and for those who help care for them.
Thank you for the gift of sight,
which allows us to see
the beauty of your world.

Thirtieth Sunday of the Year

Focus

A candle to represent Christ the Light of the World, a 'begging bowl' with an assortment of coins, and a pair of dark glasses.

Introduction

Faith is a gift from God that opens our hearts and minds to help us accept and believe the truth that Jesus came to share. In today's Gospel, such faith allows a blind man to see and recognise Jesus as the Messiah, when those around him are blinded by their lack of faith.

Gloria

Gospel Acclamation

Light the Gospel candle and sing Acclamation 2.

Gospel

A reading from the Gospel of St Mark (10:46-52)
(See page 386.)

Reflection

Why did Bartimaeus call out when he heard that Jesus was passing?

Bartimaeus shouted out to attract the attention of Jesus because he wanted to be cured.

Why did he call Jesus 'Son of David'?

Bartimaeus used this title for Jesus because he recognised that Jesus was the Messiah that God had promised to send, and the Jews believed that this Messiah would be a descendant of King David.

What did Jesus do when he heard the blind man crying out for his help?

Jesus always responds to someone who asks for his help. He wants all people to be whole in body, mind and spirit. He had the man brought to him to find out what he wanted from Jesus.

What was wrong with Bartimaeus?

Bartimaeus was blind. This disability forced him to beg and depend on people's generosity and kindness for his survival. Bartimaeus had faith in Jesus and believed that he could heal him. That faith persisted and did not falter even when the crowd tried to quieten him.

What did Jesus do?

Bartimaeus believed that he only had to ask in order to receive the gift of sight. Jesus saved him from the darkness of blindness and made him see, because of his great faith.

What did Bartimaeus do next?

Having recognised Jesus as the Messiah and being healed because of his faith, Bartimaeus became a loyal disciple. Meeting Jesus and experiencing his healing love changed the life of Bartimaeus for ever.

What can we learn from this Gospel story?

That Jesus cares about our needs and will reach out to help us and make our lives whole again if we ask for his help. If we have faith in Jesus, then he can change our lives too, if like Bartimaeus we follow his way of life as his disciples. Filled with the light of faith, Jesus opens our eyes to see the world as he does, and to respond to the needs of one another and the love of God with compassion and joy.

Activity

Jesus lights up the darkness of our world with his love and helps us to see how we can love God and one another. Help the children to create paper 'fireworks' to remind them that Christ's amazing love can transform and light up our world! Stick bands of paper around a toilet roll or kitchen foil inner, and add some self-adhesive shapes and decorations. Glue or sellotape strips of coloured paper inside the top of the tube. (Stick red and yellow paper on to kitchen foil beforehand and cut into strips. The foil allows you to fold the strips and create interesting shapes.) Complete the fireworks by adding self-adhesive stars and glitter.

Intercessions

As brothers and sisters in one loving family, together let us pray to our heavenly Father:

We pray for Christians everywhere;
may the differences that divide communities be healed by the love we share for God and one another.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for people whose homes and livelihoods have been destroyed by disaster;
may our efforts to relieve their suffering help to heal their broken lives.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for peace in our world;
may our understanding and forgiveness heal wounds of conflict and tension.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the sick and all who suffer;
may the power of God's healing love touch their lives and change them for ever.

Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Knowing that our heavenly Father is listening,
in the silence of our hearts
let us share our own unspoken prayers with him.

Silence

Loving Father,
may our faith continue to grow ever stronger,
changing our lives
and making them more pleasing to you.

We ask this through Christ your Son.

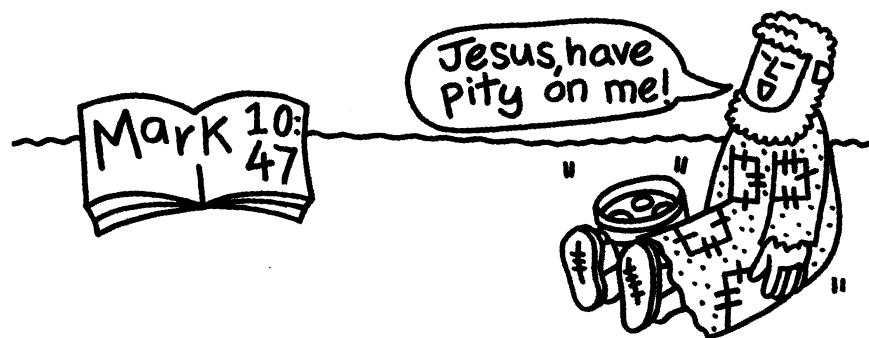
Amen.

They passed a
blind man who called
to Jesus for help!

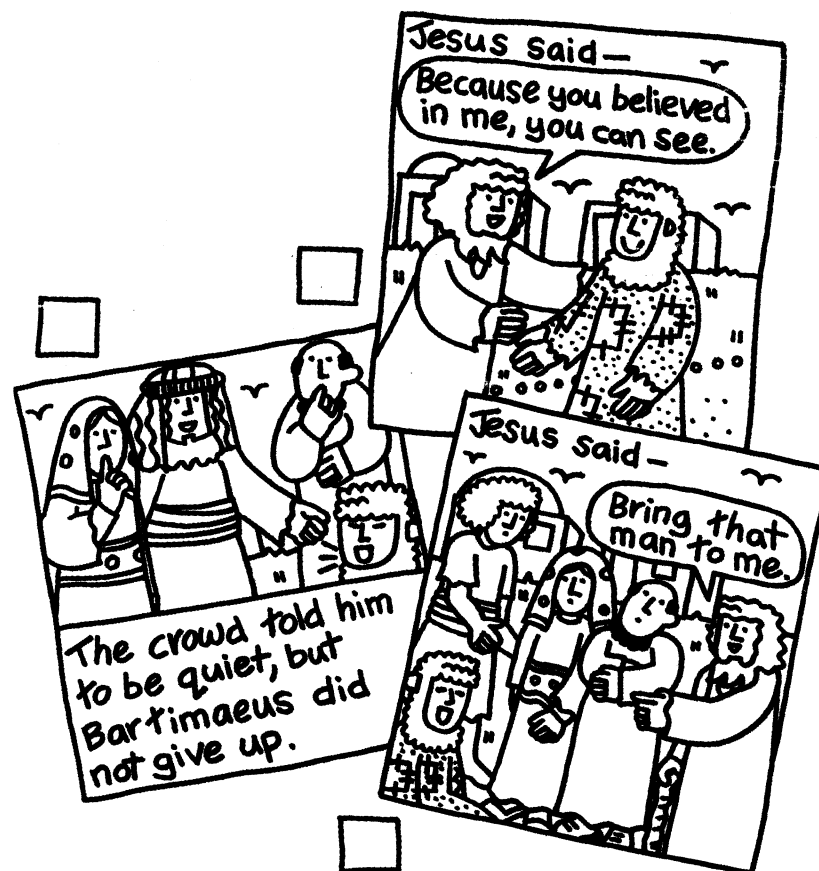
Bartimaeus would not
give up! He kept on asking
Jesus to help!

Color the squares with a • to find the blind man's name

P	B	M	A	R	S	L	M	N	P
Q	B	S	H	C	L	E	J	L	F
B	A	R	T	I	M	A	E	U	S
K	P	O	I	G	Q	M	N	R	P

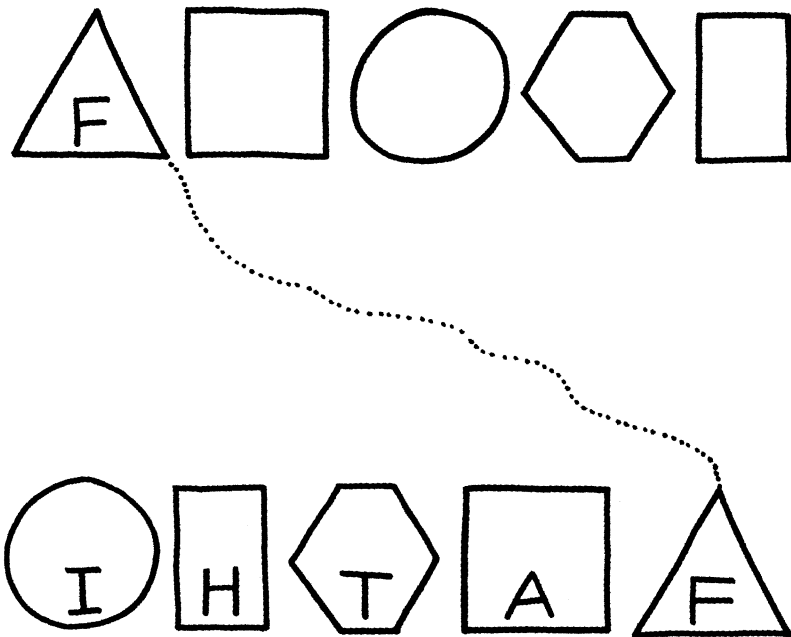


These picture stories have been mixed up!
Can you number them in the right order?



*Like Bartimaeus,
what do we need to have?*

Match the shapes and letters



Master, let me see!

MARK 10:46-52

Jesus and his disciples set off
with a large crowd.

Fill the page with people



A blind man called
Bartimaeus began shouting
loudly at Jesus!

Bartimaeus kept on
shouting until Jesus heard
his cry for help.

Use the code cracker to find his words



1	U	Y	A	E	S
2	M	L	J	H	D
3	T	P	N	V	I
	♥	↗	★	▲	↖

“

2★ 1▲ 1↗ 1♥ 1↖

2▲ 1★ 3▲ 1▲

3★ 3↗ 3♥ 1★

1★ 3★ 2↗

2▲ 1▲ 2★ 3★

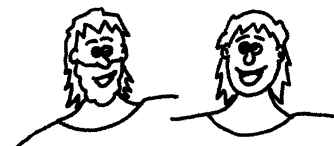
2♥ 1▲ !”

MARK 10:47



These pictures show what happened but
they have been jumbled up! Decide what order
they should be in and write the numbers below

1.



Jesus said:
“Because you believed in
me you can see!”

2.



Bartimaeus calling for pity

3.

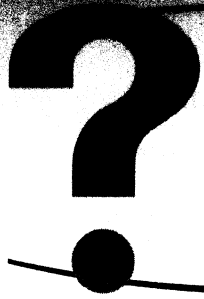


Jesus said:
“Bring that man to me”

4.



The crowd told Bartimaeus
to be quiet



Like Bartimaeus,
what do we need
to have?

Find the missing numbers to spell out the answer

3 = I 4 = F 7 = H 8 = M 9 = R 12 = A

14 = P 15 = J 16 = T 21 = S

17	4	11	9	(3 x 3)
-13	x 3	- 8	+ 7	- 2
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

I CAN
SEE!



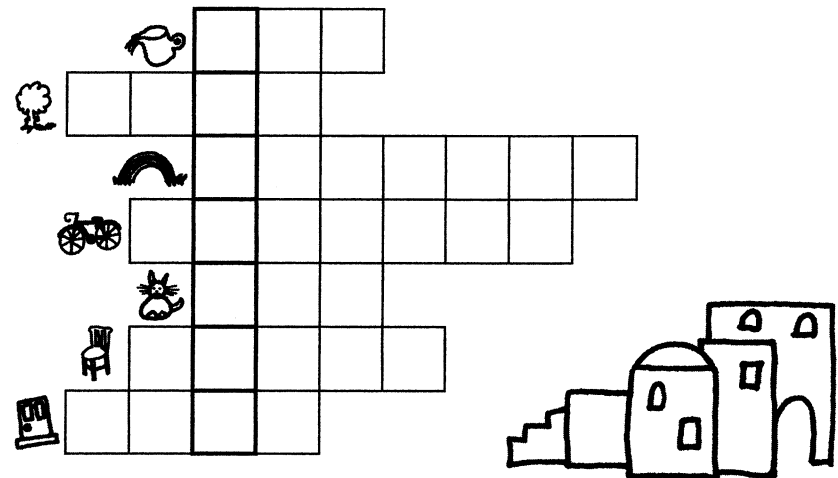
Master, let me see!

MARK 10:46-52

Jesus and his disciples set off
with a large crowd.

Which town were they passing through?

Use the clues to spell out the answer



MARK 10:46



One day Jesus passed a blind beggar called Bartimaeus.



Bartimaeus shouted loudly -
Jesus have pity on me!



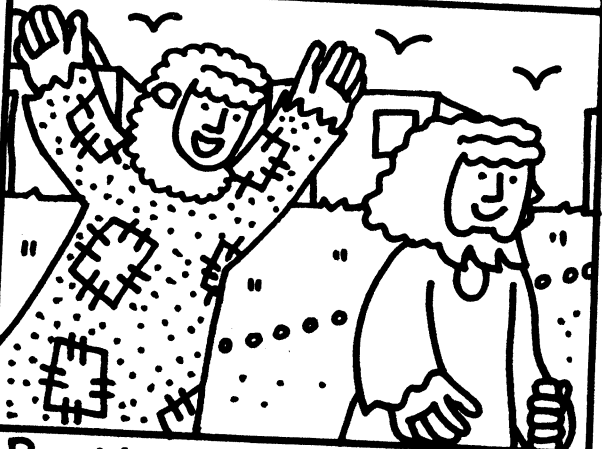
The crowd told him to be quiet, but Bartimaeus did not give up.



Jesus said -
Bring that man to me.



Jesus said -
Because you believed in me, you can see.



Bartimaeus shouted for joy and set off to follow Jesus.