

16. Jesus Heals a Man Who Couldn't See



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Jesus Heals a Man Who Couldn't See

Leader Notes:

- View [this session's focus](#), faith nurture goals, leader devotional, and story symbol (click on the story symbol to download or print).
- For the full set of DWELL Flex story symbols use the link in the sidebar.
- Need this as a PDF? Just [print this page](#) and choose to save/print as a PDF.

Take a few moments to greet the children and let them know how glad you are to see them.

I love exploring God's story with you. Let's get ready to do that together.

Breathe

Use this time to focus your attention on God.

Do this with me: calm your head, heart, and hands as you slowly breathe in . . . and out. (*Demonstrate a few deep "in and out breaths" with eyes closed.*)

Tell and Wonder

Let's enter God's story together. Here's the story symbol for the part of God's story that we'll be spending time in today. I wonder what clues it gives us about the story we're about to hear? (*Show the story symbol. Accept any answers without giving away whether or not the kids have guessed correctly.*)

Listen closely as we read the story together to see which story our symbol represents.

Read "Jesus Heals a Man Who Couldn't See" aloud (below), pausing throughout to allow children to answer the wondering questions. NOTE: It's always a good idea to read through the story beforehand so you'll be able to tell it well.

You can also read the story from a children's Bible or a simplified translation of Scripture like the New International Reader's Version (NirV). Remember to pause throughout to allow time to wonder.

Pray

Encourage everyone to close their eyes and picture Jesus from what they've heard about him. Offer up popcorn prayers of thanks by inviting any child who is comfortable to pray a simple, "Thank you God for..." prayer.

Close with this prayer: **God, we thank you for healing the man who couldn't see. We praise you for hearing him and us when we call out to you. We love you, Lord. Amen.**

See [5 Ways to Pray with Kids](#) for other ways to pray.

Respond

Select and do one or more of the response activities from God's Big Story card #104* or check out [5 Ways to Retell a Bible Story with Kids](#) for some fun ways to retell this story. Include older kids in the retelling by having them read the story aloud while the younger children act it out.

*God's Big Story cards can be ordered from FaithAliveResources.org.

Easy Extra

Gather a variety of nature items ahead of time, or go on a quick nature walk with your group to gather some rocks, leaves, and flowers.

Using a magnifying glass or camera zoom, explore the objects up close, marveling at God's amazing creation together. Encourage the children to share what they see. If you have a child with visual impairments in your group, invite him or her to describe the feel and smell of the objects. When you are done, say a simple prayer of praise of thanks for God's amazing creation and the ways we can experience it.

Story: Jesus Heals a Man Who Couldn't See [Mark 10:46-52](#)

Before you begin the story, tell the children to imagine that you are a blind man who meets Jesus.

My name is Bartimaeus. And I have to tell you about the most amazing day of my life. It's the day I met Jesus! Here's what happened. I was sitting alongside the road, begging for money. It's what I did every day. I had to—I wasn't able to see, and because I was blind, people didn't treat me very well. They didn't think I could work at a real job, so all I could do was ask people for help all day. I wanted to work like everyone else. I also wanted to see the things everyone else saw. The birds that I could hear singing, the kids that I could hear playing, the warm sunshine I could feel on my shoulders. Oh, how I wished I could see! *(If you have children in your group with vision problems, you may want to skip this question.)* **Close your eyes for a moment. What would you miss seeing if you were blind?** *(Pause for responses.)*

The day I met Jesus started out like every ordinary day. I was sitting along the road begging when I heard a crowd of people coming. They were noisy and I could tell they were excited. When I heard someone say that Jesus was on his way I got excited too! Maybe I could meet him! I started yelling his name: "JESUS! JESUS! STOP AND HELP ME!"

People don't like it when people like me yell at people going by. They want to be able to walk by us without having to see us if they don't want to. **How do you think the crowd responded when I started shouting so loudly for Jesus? How would you have responded?** *(Pause for responses.)*

People told me “shh!” and “be quiet!” but I didn’t stop. I knew exactly who Jesus was and I wanted to meet him. So I kept calling, “JESUS! HELP ME, JESUS!”

Suddenly I felt a hand on my arm—someone was helping me go to Jesus. They said that Jesus wanted to see me! I wanted to see him so much too! **What do you think my face looked like when I heard that Jesus wanted to see me?** *(Pause for responses.)*

When they brought me to Jesus, he asked me a question: “What do you want me to do for you?”

I told him, “Teacher, I want to see.”

Jesus said, “Then you will see! Because you believe in me, you can see, my friend.”

And then—just like that—I COULD see! I saw the people, the birds, the kids, the warm sunshine—everything! I jumped up and praised God. The people in the crowd praised God too. The day I met Jesus was the most amazing day of my life! **What do you think it would be like to meet Jesus? How do you think it felt when I could suddenly see again?** *(Pause for responses.)*

Looking for More Activities for This Story?

Click below to access the full age-specific *Dwell* session for this story:

- [Kindergarten-1st Grade: Jesus Heals a Man Who Couldn't See](#)
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