

Bible Reference : Mark 10:46-52

Aim

To help pupils realize that Jesus is offering us a new way of living our life.

Recap

Sing "This Little Light of Mine" - verse 2 only, songsheet 12.2.

Development

1. Ask the pupils to close their eyes. Now without opening their eyes they put away everything that is on their table except for their bibles. Now ask one or two pupils who dare to come up to the front without opening their eyes. Ask them how they felt. Did they try to cheat? *Why? (We feel helpless. We find it very hard to live in darkness.)* Listen carefully, we are going to hear the story of a blind man.
2. Proclaim / Read **Mark 10:46-52.**
3. Get 6 volunteers to do a dramatic reading of the text (see storysheet 20.1, 'The healing of blind Bartimaeus')
4. Allow for a time of reflection in silence. Play some music in the background if necessary. Allow pupils to talk quietly to a friend or write how they feel about the text they have just heard. What did they like or not like? Ask pupils to share some thoughts if they wish.
5. Sing: "Showers of Love" by Trevor Nerva & Julie Sim, *Every step of the way*, WWJ, SPI, 1999, CD Vol. II, No. 1, minus one track 1, song sheet 7.1.

Lesson Twenty

Faith and blindness

Storysheet 20.1 Mark 10:46-52

The healing of blind Bartimaeus

Narrator : After Jesus had been teaching his disciples he went to a town called Jericho. He spent some time there and was now leaving with his disciples and a great crowd that followed him. Then something happened.

Bartimaeus : *(Pushing his way through the crowd on his knees)* What is all the noise, who is it that is passing by?

1st Bystander : Jesus of Nazareth the healer and great teacher.

Bartimaeus : *(Shouting)* Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me.

2nd Bystander: Be quiet. He is too busy, there is such a great crowd.

Bartimaeus : *(Shouting even louder)* Son of David, have mercy on me.

Jesus : *(Kindly)* Bring the man to me.

3rd Bystander: Take heart, get up, he is calling you.

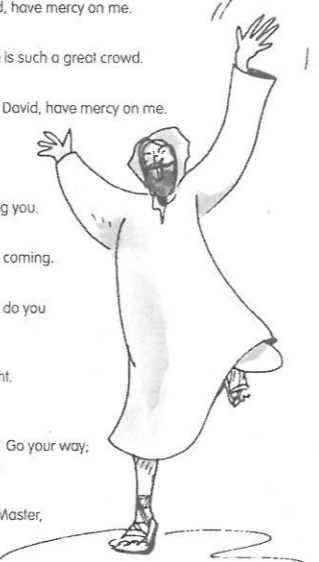
Bartimaeus : *(Jumping on his feet, at last)* I am coming.

Jesus : *(Looking at Bartimaeus)* What do you want me to do for you?

Bartimaeus : Master, let me receive my sight. Make me well again.

Jesus : *(Placing his hand on his eyes)* Go your way, your faith has made you well.

Bartimaeus : *(Suddenly able to see again)* Master, let me follow you always...



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Jesus, our friend and teacher

6. Ask the following questions:
 How did the blind man feel when he was calling out? *(Anxious, desperate, hopeful)*
 How do you think he felt when he met Jesus? *(Fearful, hopeful, doubtful)*
 How did he feel after he received his sight? *(Incredibly happy, grateful)*

Review & Reflect

Compose a prayer to Jesus expressing your longing for something you consider very important in your life - worksheet 20.2, 'My prayer to Jesus'. If you have nothing right now that is so important you can imagine you are Bartimaeus. Tell Jesus how terrible life was before he came along and how happy you are today.

Conclusion

Pray the newly composed prayer silently.

Prepare for the next lesson


A candle, matches and a Bible on a low table if possible.

Lesson Twenty

Faith and blindness

Worksheet 20.2 Mark 10:46-52

My prayer to Jesus



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Jesus, our friend and teacher