

GROWING IN FAITH



Mark 10:51

What do you want me to do for you?

For More Information Contact:
Rev. Josh Attaway,
Edmond Campus Pastor
jattaway@stlukesokc.org

STARTING OUT

Begin with a prayer. You can offer your own prayer or use the one below. Almighty God, we are grateful for the opportunity to join together as a community. Open our hearts and minds to receive Your Word that we might grow closer to one another and closer to You. Amen.

Read the scripture verse for the day - Mark 10:46-52.

PLAY THE VIDEO

GOING DEEPER

The story of Jesus healing a blind beggar can be found in Mark 10:46-52, Matthew 20:29-34, and Luke 18:35-43.

Read these three stories and discuss the different details provided by each writer.

Why do you think each writer tells the story a little differently?

Does this take away the credibility of their story? Does this enhance the story for you?

Mark's gospel is the oldest of the four gospels. Matthew and Luke were both likely using Mark as a reference in writing their gospels. Why did early Christians keep all four gospels in the Bible rather than just choosing one?

In the midst of the busyness of life, we still take time every week to join together in worship and small groups to study the Bible and grow in our faith.

Why is it important for you to take time each week to focus on growing in your faith?

What are you hoping to get out of this time each week? Gain new knowledge? Grow in your spirituality? Make new friends?

Josh mentioned how the name "Bartimaeus" is a play on words that could mean "highly prized" or "unclean".

What kind of people do you think our world looks at as "unclean"?

Do you think God sees all of those people as "highly prized"? Why or why not?

How does our answer to the question above impact the way we treat others?

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GOING DEEPER

The scripture tells us that the crowds tried to silence Bartimaeus as he cried out for Jesus. They became an obstacle to him living out his faith.

What kind of obstacles do you face in living out your faith?

How do you manage to persevere and maintain faith even in the face of these obstacles?

Read some of the other stories about Jesus healing people including Matthew 8:5-13, Matthew 15:21-28, Matthew 9:20-22, and Luke 17:11-19. In all of these stories Jesus makes a connection between the faith of the individuals and the healing that takes place.

Is there a difference between being healed and being cured? If so, what is the difference?

What does our faith have to do with being healed?

When Jesus asked Bartimaeus what he wanted him to do, Bartimaeus immediately knew what he wanted, and what he wanted lined up with the character of a God who offers sight to the blind.

If Jesus, asked you that question, how would you respond? Does your answer line up with the character of God?

Do you have faith, or trust, that God can provide that for you?

How did Bartimaeus respond when Jesus gave him what he asked for? What does this teach us about how we should respond to God's provision?

Closing

Take time to lift up joys and concerns in your group before closing in prayer. You can offer your own prayer or use the one below.

God, You are the one who offers sight to the blind, makes the lame walk, and gives strength to the weak. Fill us with Your wisdom, that our will might be lined up with Yours. May we hear Your voice asking us, "What do you want me to do for you?", and may we respond with requests that match your character. Send us out into the world to follow you on the way. Amen.