



Jesus Heals the Blind Man

Mark 10:46-52

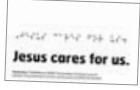
Children understand needing to be cared for. They trust the adults in their lives to provide for their needs—and even some of their wants. When young children see someone who is disabled, they’re curious, but they can be very compassionate and caring toward disabled individuals. Use this lesson to help children understand that Jesus cares for all people and has compassion for them.



► **Bible Point**
Jesus cares for us.

Key Verse
“Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest” (Matthew 11:28).

Weaving Faith Into Life
Children will know that Jesus cares for them and will practice caring for others.

LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p>1 Getting Started <i>about 5 min.</i></p>	<p>Welcome and Celebrate Welcome each other, and praise God through music.</p>	<p>CD player Teacher Pack: CD</p>	
<p>2 Key Verse Activity <i>about 10 min.</i></p>	<p>Taking Comfort Hold their Bibles up high whenever they take comfort in Jesus.</p>	<p>Bibles</p>	
<p>3 Bible Exploration <i>about 15 min.</i></p>	<p>Puppy Pointers Feel Braille paper, and talk with Theo.</p>	<p>CD player, Theo puppet, tape, paper Teacher Pack: CD, Braille paper</p> 	<p>Tape a piece of blank paper over the printed text on the Braille paper. Then tape the Braille paper to Theo’s paw.</p>
	<p>Bible Time: Bartimaeus Needs Help Pretend to be Bartimaeus.</p>	<p>Bible</p>	

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



LESSON	WHAT CHILDREN DO	SUPPLIES	EASY PREP
<p style="text-align: center;">4</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Weaving Faith Into Life</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>about 20 min.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>(Choose 2 centers.)</i></p>	<p>Center 1: Now the Man Can See Make a Bartimaeus mask, and then pretend to be Bartimaeus before and after Jesus healed him.</p>	My Bible Hugs, dark construction paper, glue sticks, child-safe scissors, craft sticks	Remove the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Hugs student book, and write children's names on them. Cut out the eyeholes and eyelids.
	<p>Center 2: What Can I See? Look at the appearance of their snack pieces.</p>	pretzels, square cheese crackers, and oyster crackers or other snack mix ingredients, antibacterial gel (optional)	
	<p>Center 3: Healing Tag Play a game and help each other see again.</p>	CD player Teacher Pack: CD	
	<p>Center 4: Heartfelt Care Decorate paper hearts to look like people.</p>	construction paper, hole punch, markers, glue, scissors, yarn	Cut one 5-inch construction-paper heart, four 2x½-inch strips of paper, and one 8-inch piece of yarn for each child. Punch a hole in the top of each heart.
<p style="text-align: center;">5</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Lasting Impressions</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>about 10 min.</i></p>	<p>Daily Challenges Choose a Daily Challenge to apply God's Word.</p>	My Bible Hugs	
	<p>Action Prayer Sing a prayer to God.</p>		
	<p>Weaving Faith at Home Talk about how to share what they learned with their families.</p>		

Bold text within the lesson is spoken text.



Jesus Heals the Blind Man

Mark 10:46-52

BIBLE BACKGROUND
FOR LEADERS

Blind Bartimaeus Cries Out to Jesus for Healing

Leaving Jericho on his way to Jerusalem, Jesus had gathered a crowd. Bartimaeus’ blindness didn’t prevent him from hearing the ruckus of the approaching crowd and from asking who was creating all the fuss. When he found out, his cries of “Son of David” in addressing Jesus were not just a way of identifying Jesus’ lineage. Since the term “Son of David” is clearly a reference to the Messiah, Bartimaeus was shouting both to the crowd and to Jesus that he believed Jesus was the promised Messiah.

Although Jesus was surrounded by a crowd and was set on reaching his destination, his ears and heart were attuned to the cry of one calling out for mercy. Bartimaeus needed Jesus’ mercy, and Jesus heard his cry.

Bartimaeus Hails Jesus as the Son of David

In acknowledging Bartimaeus’ identification of him as the Son of David, Jesus was also making a statement. Earlier in his ministry, he’d avoided being identified as the Messiah. But now, as he was making his last trip to Jerusalem, where he would be crucified, he was ready for his identity to be known.

Bartimaeus’ Faith Initiates the Healing

Notice that Bartimaeus’ faith in Jesus initiated his healing. Jesus didn’t say, “Because you’ve lived a good life in spite of your hardship, I’ll heal you.” He didn’t say, “Because your parents were so faithful to me, I’ll give you your sight.” Jesus responded to Bartimaeus’ faith. Things haven’t changed. Jesus responds to our needs on the basis of our faith, not

because of anything good we’ve done or any specific set of words we repeat. Jesus shows us he cares for us by taking care of our needs as we acknowledge our dependence on him and trust in him to meet those needs. And what Jesus asks in return is that we do as Bartimaeus did and follow Jesus along the roads of our lives, no matter how old or young we may be.

The Jesus Connection

Do you have a good friend who you usually talk to about your problems? Jesus is the ultimate friend. As Bartimaeus learned, we can cry out in faith when we need Jesus’ help! And we can have faith in Jesus to meet our needs in one way or another.

Pray honestly about your needs, and then focus on the reasons you have faith in Jesus to help you, heal you, or simply hear you. You can write your prayer here.





Welcome and Celebrate Supplies

CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: "Welcome, Welcome" (track 14), "Love Is Patient and Kind" (1 Corinthians 13:4-5a) (track 21)

1

GETTING STARTED

Welcome and Celebrate



Tip Consistently use the same signal to announce a transition to the next activity. You could flip the lights off and on, use a train whistle, have a puppet rustling inside a bag, or sing cleanup songs. Keep it simple, consistent, and fun.

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

As the children arrive, greet each one with a smile. When it's time to begin, use your signal to gather the children together in a circle.

Lead children in singing "Welcome, Welcome" (track 14 on the CD) to the tune of "Ten Little Indians." Have the children stand in a circle and hold hands as they swing their arms and sing. Encourage them to smile at each other throughout the song.



Welcome, welcome to our church.

Welcome, welcome to our church.

Welcome, welcome to our church.

We're so glad you're here!

(Repeat 2x.)

Say: **Today we're going to learn that ► JESUS CARES FOR US. Let's sing another song together. This song will help us remember that Jesus is kind and that ► JESUS CARES FOR US.**

Lead the children in singing "Love Is Patient and Kind" (1 Corinthians 13:4-5a) (track 21 on the CD). Encourage children to follow the motions in parentheses.



Love is patient and kind. (hug self)

Love is not jealous (shake head no)

Or boastful (put hands on hips)

Or proud or rude. (stomp foot)

(Repeat 3x.)

Love is patient and kind. (hug self)

(Repeat 4x.)

"Love Is Patient and Kind" (1 Corinthians 13:4-5a) by Jay Stocker. © 2006 Group Publishing, Inc. All rights reserved.



Talk With Kids ■■■■

Say: ► **JESUS CARES FOR US, and he shows us how to love. When we know how much Jesus loves us and cares for us, it can help us love and care for others, too.**



2

**KEY VERSE
ACTIVITY**

Taking Comfort

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Have children form a circle and sit down. Open your Bible to Matthew 11:28, and show children the words. Tell children that the Bible is God's special book.

Say: **Our Key Verse from the Bible, Matthew 11:28, says, "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest" (Matthew 11:28). This means that Jesus wants us to come to him and rest. Let's say our Key Verse together.** Lead children in saying the simplified version of the Key Verse with you: **Come to me and rest (Matthew 11:28).**

Say: **When you feel sad, scared, tired, or lonely, you go to your mommy and daddy for comfort or rest. You can also go to Jesus when you need comfort!**

Give each child a Bible.

Say: **Let's talk about times we can go to Jesus for comfort. I'm going to ask a question, and when we come up with some ideas, I want you to hold your Bible up high and say, "Jesus gives me comfort!"**

Ask:

- **What can you do if you're in your bed at night and feel scared?** Allow time.

Say: **Thanks for your ideas! You know that your mommy and daddy care about you and want you to feel comforted if you're afraid. Jesus cares about you, too, and he wants you to come to him when you need comfort.**

Have children hold their Bibles up high over their heads and say, "Jesus gives me comfort!"

Ask:

- **What could you do if your baby brother or sister was crying?** Allow time.

Say: **Whenever someone feels sad, worried, scared, or tired, we can give them comfort by showing love and being kind. Jesus wants to show us comfort, love, and kindness, too.**

**Taking Comfort
Supplies**

Bibles





Have the children raise their Bibles up over their heads and say, “Jesus gives me comfort!”

Ask:

- **What could you do if someone spilled something and felt very sad about it?**
Allow time.

Say: **Jesus wants us to comfort and care for others, just as ► JESUS CARES FOR US. When we comfort others, we’re showing that we care about them.**

Have children hold up their Bibles and say, “Jesus gives me comfort!”

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What do you like about knowing Jesus comforts you?**
- **What will you do this week when you’re afraid or sad?**

Say: ► **JESUS CARES FOR US, and we know we can go to him when we’re scared, tired, or sad. When we go to him, he’ll comfort us and help us rest.**

3

BIBLE EXPLORATION

Puppy Pointers

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Listen everyone, Theo’s coming! He has something to show us. Let’s find out what it is.** Play “Here, Theo” (track 4 on the CD), and bring out Theophilus the FaithRetriever.

Theo: Hi, everybody!

Teacher: Hello, Theo! It’s so good to see you at church with us today. What do you have there?

Theo: I’m reading.

Teacher: How can you be reading? That piece of paper has no words on it.

Theo: Yes, it does.

(Pause and look at the paper in Theo’s paw for a minute.)

Teacher: But, Theo, it looks blank.

Theo: It’s written in Braille.

Teacher: Oh! Theo, could you tell the children about Braille?

Theo: Braille is made of little dots that you run your finger over to read. That way blind people—people who can’t see—can read. The dots feel like different letters and words when you touch them.

Puppy Pointers Supplies

CD player
Theo puppet
tape
paper

Teacher Pack

CD: “Here, Theo”
(track 4)
Braille paper

Puppy Pointers Easy Prep

Tape a piece of blank paper over the printed text on the Braille paper. Then tape the Braille paper to Theo’s paw.



(Let children run their fingers over the paper.)

Teacher: We're reading in the Bible today about a man who used to be blind.

Theo: Really? If he used to be blind, does that mean he started to see?

Teacher: Yes, he was healed. Jesus made it so he could see again. Our Bible Point today tells us why Jesus would heal someone. Friends, let's say our Bible Point for Theo.

(Lead children in saying the Bible Point for Theo: ► JESUS CARES FOR US.)

Teacher: That's right—Jesus cares for us so much! Theo, I hope you enjoy your Braille reading today. Thanks for visiting us. Friends, let's say goodbye to Theo.

Encourage the children to wave or say goodbye to Theo. Then put Theo away in a safe place for next week's use.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What do you think about the Braille paper?**
- **Why do you think it's important to have Braille paper for people who can't see?**
- **Why do you think it's important for people to know Jesus cares for them?**

Say: **Braille paper helps blind people read and learn new things. Today we'll read the Bible and learn about how Jesus healed a blind man so he could see. Jesus cared for the blind man, and ► JESUS CARES FOR US. It's important that we know ► JESUS CARES FOR US, loves us, and watches over us. Let's see how Jesus changed the blind man's life.**

Bible Time: Bartimaeus Needs Help

What You'll Do

Open your Bible to Mark 10:46-52, and show children the words. Tell children that the Bible is God's special book.

Say: **Today we'll learn that ► JESUS CARES FOR US.**

One day Jesus and his disciples were very tired. They wanted to rest, but many people still wanted to see Jesus. A blind man named Bartimaeus was sitting by the road begging for money. He called so loudly to get Jesus' attention that people told him to be quiet. Have the children pretend to be Bartimaeus and call out to get Jesus' attention. Let them use different voices and different volumes.

Say: **When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was coming his way, he began to shout louder, "Jesus, help me! Jesus, have mercy on me and help me!"** Group the children in pairs. Have the partners take turns closing their eyes and repeating the words "Jesus, help me" to show how the blind man got Jesus to hear him. Then have one partner pretend to be Jesus while the other pretends to be the blind man, and encourage the "blind" partner to close his or her eyes and move around to find "Jesus."



Bible Time:
Bartimaeus Needs
Help
Supplies

.....
Bible





Say: **Some of the people told Bartimaeus to be quiet, but he called out even louder, “Jesus, help me! Jesus, take care of me.” Jesus heard the man and stopped. He told the people to bring Bartimaeus to him. Jesus asked, “Why do you call me? What do you want me to do for you?” Bartimaeus told Jesus that he wanted to see. Jesus took care of the man, and all of a sudden Bartimaeus could see!**

Have one child in each pair pretend to be Jesus. Have the other child in each pair close his or her eyes to pretend to be blind Bartimaeus. Have the children pretending to be Jesus say, “Open your eyes and see.” Have the children pretending to be Bartimaeus act out the excitement of being able to see for the first time. Have the children switch roles. Then bring everyone back into one group.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What was it like to try to find someone when you had your eyes closed?
- What was it like to open your eyes after you had them closed for a little bit?
- Why is what Jesus did so amazing?
- What does what Jesus did tell you about Jesus?

Say: **Most of us probably can’t imagine what it would like to be blind. Even walking around for a few moments with our eyes closed was tricky. But we can remember that even in tricky times like that, ► JESUS CARES FOR US. Jesus is so strong and great. He can do anything—even help a blind man see again. Jesus did things like that, and he does things in our lives to show he cares, too.**

Center 1: Now the Man Can See Supplies

My Bible Hugs
dark construction paper
glue sticks
child-safe scissors
craft sticks

Center 1: Now the Man Can See Easy Prep

Remove the Lesson 13 pages from each My Bible Hugs student book, and write children’s names on them. Cut out the eyeholes and eyelids.

4 WEAVING FAITH INTO LIFE

Choose at least two of the learning centers to help reinforce today’s Bible lesson. Gather the needed materials, and put the supplies in an out-of-sight area until you’re ready for them. Allow the children to choose which center they’d like to explore first. Then circulate among the children as they create and explore. Encourage them to make connections between their activities and the Bible by asking them the questions included with each center’s description.

■ CENTER 1:

Now the Man Can See

What You’ll Do ■■■■■■

Give each child a Lesson 13 page from My Bible Hugs, a sheet of dark construction paper, and a craft stick. Say: **Today we read in the Bible that Jesus made a blind man see! Let’s make some masks that show how the blind man was healed.**



Have each child cut around the face shape, and glue a craft stick behind the chin of the mask. Then have children tear the construction paper into strips and glue them in place as beards. Help the children glue the eyelid tabs above the eyeholes, and show them how to fold the eyelids up for open eyes and down for blind eyes.

Say: **Pretend to be the blind man.** Demonstrate that when a child holds up the mask with the eyes closed, he or she can pretend to be Bartimaeus before he met Jesus. The child can then open the eyes to pretend to be Bartimaeus after Jesus healed him.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **What did you like about lifting the eyes so you could see?**
- **What's it like when something great happens in your life?**
- **What are some ways Jesus takes care of us and heals us?**

Say: **Bartimaeus was blind, and Jesus made him be able to see!** ► **JESUS CARES FOR US, and he'll do great things to take care of and love us, too.**

■ CENTER 2:

What Can I See?

What You'll Do ■■■■

Have children clean their hands and then sit down for the snack.

Give children a snack mix of pretzels, square cheese crackers, and oyster crackers or other ingredients. Say: **The blind man couldn't see anything. If he picked something up, he might not even know if it's food or something else. Look carefully at your snack. Tell me all the things you notice about it.** Allow time. Encourage children to notice shapes, identify likes and dislikes, and explain how they know what some of the items might taste like.

Say: **Just being able to see your snack helps you know that you can eat it, whether you might like it, and whether it'll be good for you to eat.**

Ask:

- **What are some ways a blind man could know whether they can eat something?** Allow time. Help the children to understand that a blind person could get help from others, or he could feel or smell the items.



Center 2: What Can I See? Supplies

-
- pretzels
 - square cheese crackers
 - oyster crackers or other snack mix ingredients
 - antibacterial gel (optional)

! **ALLERGY ALERT**





Healing Tag Supplies

CD player

Teacher Pack

CD: "Jesus Loves Me
Rock" (track 10)

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What are some things a blind person might have trouble doing?
- Why is how Jesus took care of the blind man so great?
- Why do you know Jesus will care for you?

Say: **Bartimaeus couldn't see until Jesus healed him—which means he might've had trouble finding food, eating, and doing many, many other things. But when he called out to Jesus, Jesus cared for him by healing him. Just as Jesus cared for and healed Bartimaeus, ► JESUS CARES FOR US, too.** Choose a child to thank God for the snack, and then let kids eat and enjoy.

■ CENTER 3:

Healing Tag

What You'll Do ■■■■

Say: **Let's play a game to remind us how Jesus cared for the blind man, and how ► JESUS CARES FOR US, too.**

Have children sit in a circle. Say: **To play this game, you'll put your hands over your eyes so you can't see.** Have the children practice. Then say: **As you cover your eyes, you'll say in a quiet voice, "Jesus, help me" over and over.** Have the children practice.

Choose one child to be the Tagger, and have him or her stand. Say: **The Tagger will walk around the outside of our circle as you close your eyes. If he or she tags you, then you can stop saying "Jesus help me," and open your eyes.** Demonstrate for the children.

Start the song "Jesus Loves Me Rock" (track 10 on the CD) and let it play for about 10 seconds. Then pause the music, and encourage the Tagger to tag the child he or she is standing closest to. Encourage the newly "healed" child to jump up and say, "Thank you! I can see." Have that child be the next Tagger, and continue the game until every child has had a chance to be "healed."

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- What were you thinking when you were tagged?
- Tell about a time Jesus did something great for you or someone you know.
- What do you want Jesus to care for this week?



Say: **Jesus cared for the blind man so much that he helped him see. When the man called to Jesus for help, he believed that Jesus would help him. Just like the blind man who called out to Jesus, we can call out to Jesus, too. We can call out to Jesus by praying because ► JESUS CARES FOR US.**



CENTER 4:

Heartfelt Care

What You'll Do

Say: ► **JESUS CARES FOR US just as much as he cared for the blind man. Whenever we need something, we can talk to Jesus and know he'll love and protect us. Let's make some heart people to remind us that Jesus loves us so much and cares for us.**

Give each child a paper heart, four strips of paper, and a piece of yarn. Encourage children to use the markers to decorate the hearts and make them look like faces. Show children how to fold the four strips of paper like fans or accordions and then glue two of the strips to the heart as legs and two of the strips as arms. Next, help each child thread one end of the yarn through the hole at the top of the heart. Tie the yarn in a bow at the top.

Say: **Use your heart person to remind your friends that Jesus cares for them.** Encourage the children to use their heart people to say, "Jesus cares for you" to other individual children in your group.

Talk With Kids

Lead children in this discussion.

Ask:

- **Why does a big heart remind you that Jesus cares?**
- **What can you do to remember this week that Jesus cares for you?**
- **What can you do to show others that Jesus cares for them?**

Say: **Today we learned about a man who could not see with his eyes, but he believed in his heart that Jesus cared for him and could help him. ► JESUS CARES FOR US, too! Every time you see this heart, remember that Jesus cares for you.** Tell children they can hang their hearts somewhere in their rooms as reminders that Jesus loves and cares for every single person in the world.

Center 4: Heartfelt Care Supplies

- construction paper
- hole punch
- markers
- glue
- scissors
- yarn

Center 4: Heartfelt Care Easy Prep

Cut one 5-inch construction-paper heart, four 2x½-inch strips of paper, and one 8-inch piece of yarn for each child. Punch a hole in the top of each heart.



Daily Challenges
Supplies

My Bible Hugs

5 LASTING
IMPRESSIONS

Daily Challenges

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

After the children have cleaned up their centers, bring everyone back to a circle area on the floor. Review the lesson activities and the Bible Point, and then encourage the children to share what they remember about what they learned from the Bible today.

Also use this time to challenge kids in their faith. Encourage them to choose a Daily Challenge for applying today's lesson to their lives this week. Use this challenge for encouraging your children's growing relationships with Jesus.

Talk With Kids ■■■■

Say: **Today we learned that ► JESUS CARES FOR US. I would like each of you this week to choose a way to remember that Jesus cares.**

Give kids these two challenges to choose from:

- **When you see someone who is sad, tired, or scared, let the person borrow your heart person. Tell him or her that Jesus cares.**
- **When you wake up one morning, pray and thank Jesus that he cares for you. Try to remember all day that Jesus is with you.**


Say: **If you want to lend your heart to someone, circle the choice with one dot. If you want to pray in the morning, circle the choice with two dots.** Check that each child circled a choice on his or her My Bible Hugs page. Make sure you choose a challenge as well, and tell the kids. Your commitment will inspire your kids and give them an opportunity to see God at work in your life as well as in theirs!

Action Prayer

What You'll Do ■■■■■■

Say: **Jesus cares so much for you. What do you need Jesus to care for this week? Allow time. Jesus will care for you in those things. Let's pray to Jesus and ask him to take care of us.**

Sing "Jesus, Please Take Care of Me" to the tune of "Old MacDonald." Then close by saying together, "In Jesus' name, amen."

Pray:  **Jesus, please take care of me,
J-E-S-U-S.
Jesus, please take care of me,
J-E-S-U-S.**



**Thank you, God, for loving me.
Jesus, please take care of me.
O, Jesus, please take care of me,
J-E-S-U-S.**

Weaving Faith at Home

Have children take home their My Bible Hugs pages whether they worked on them or not. Have the children tell their parents the challenge they committed to in the “Daily Challenges” activity. Encourage the parents to help their kids fulfill this commitment during the week. By working together and focusing on the same goals, you and parents can help children weave faith into their lives!

Talk to your Director about emailing the FREE FamilyConnect to all your church’s families. Available at group.com/digital.

