

St. James Faith on the Go

Date: October 24

Message: Eyes of Faith

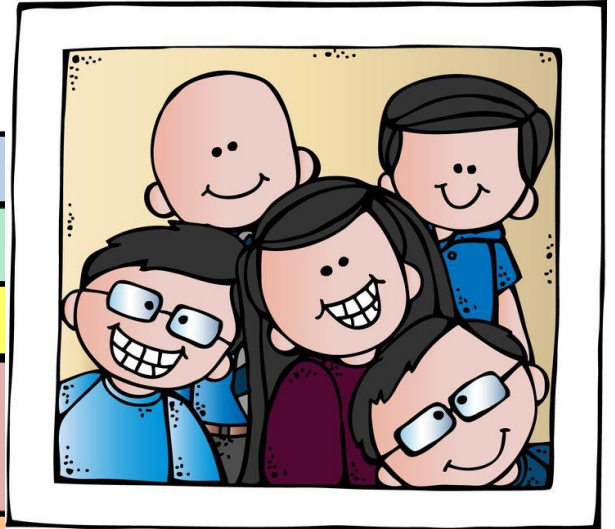
Gospel: Mark 10:46-52

Materials: Bible, Faith Journal,

Opening Prayer:

Listen to **Faith by Lifetree Kids**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vTCQ81-7MnA>



Warm Up:

What are some big challenges you have had in your life?

Have each person, including adults, tell about three challenges they have faced and why they were difficult.

Was there anyone who helped you conquer your challenges?

In our Gospel we are going to read about a man named Bartimaeus who faced a difficulty from the moment he was born.

Let's read and find what it was.

Gospel Proclamation:

Reading: Read, or have your students read **Mark 10:46-52**

It is often helpful to read it twice or have the children retell the story in their own words. **The Gospel of the Lord.**

Did you know?

Son of David: In the old testament when God promised to send a savior He said he would be a "son of David".

That means He would be a descendant of the great King David. You may have heard about King David. When he was young he used a slingshot to kill the giant, Goliath, and save the Israelites from the Philistines. He was chosen by God to lead his people. He also wrote the Psalms in the Bible. So, when Bartimaeus calls Jesus "Son of David" he is showing that he believes that Jesus is the savior, the Messiah.

Breaking Open the Message:

Bartimaeus spent his days sitting on the roadside begging for money. Why?

In Jesus' time anyone who was not able to work in the fields or as a carpenter or tentmaker or fisherman had no way to provide for himself. There were no charities or soup kitchens that helped people or jobs for people with disabilities.

The same was true for women whose husbands had died and had no one to provide for them. Women were generally not allowed to have jobs or own property. So those who could not work had to beg in the street.

Bartimaeus was blind but he could see something many others at his time did not see. He saw with his heart that Jesus was the Savior, the Messiah. He believed Jesus could grant him his sight. How did he demonstrate his faith? By calling out to Jesus, asking for mercy. "Jesus, son of David, have pity on me."

Because he showed faith, Jesus called him over. What did Jesus ask Bartimaeus?

What did Bartimaeus answer?

What did Jesus say saved Bartimaeus? His faith!

Because that he had faith, Bartimaeus' his life was totally changed! He had never been able to see anyone or anything and now he can see the trees, the sky, the temple, and people who had been kind to him.

He can work and provide for himself and his family all because he believed in Jesus.

What is faith? One way to explain faith is that it is believing in something that you cannot see. Do you have faith?

Faith in Action:

When we join a team, we trust the coach to teach us the skills that we need and help us practice.

When you have a question, you can go to the coach for help. We have faith in Him.

God is our COACH. You can't see God but you have faith in Him. As a church we believe that God created and loves us. In our hearts we know God is always with us. He wants us to do well and be happy.

Bartimaeus called out to Jesus to heal him because he had faith that Jesus could heal him.

In your Bible Matthew chapter 17:14-21 read another story where someone came to Jesus with faith.

The father of the boy brought him to the disciples for healing and when that didn't work he brought him to Jesus.

Why? Because he had faith that Jesus could help his son.

What did Jesus say we can do if we have faith? We can move mountains!

But we can't get faith on Amazon! Where do we get it? Faith is like a tiny seed that was planted in us at baptism.

When we spend time with God the seed of faith is watered and grows. Doing these lessons is one way to water that seed.

How do you spend time with God? Maybe you pray memorized prayers like the Our Father, Hail Mary, and Act of Contrition. Participating in the Mass is a powerful form of prayer.

You can talk to God while you walk or color or listen to music. You can pray alone or with others.

There are also silent prayers and meditations where you use your imagination to put yourself with God in a beautiful place and feel God there with you. Prayer doesn't need to be complicated. It can just be a conversation with your friend Jesus.

How do you like to pray? What new way do you want to try praying?

Here is a way to pray that you can do before you go to sleep at night:

First take some deep breaths and welcome God into your space.

Praise God for all the good things that happened that day, starting when you woke up and going through your day.

Repent of anything you did that may have hurt other's feelings. Think of things you may have said, as well as ways you could have helped someone and didn't. You may say you're sorry for hurts you may not know about.

Ask God for help with any of your challenges, knowing that He wants to help you and wants you to be happy.

Ask or help for people you know who are sick, lonely or hurting.

Yield: This means that God is the coach and He knows best. To yield means to let Him take charge.

We can do this with four words: "Thy will be done"

Then you can sleep knowing that everything is in His hands.

My Faith Response:

On a new page in your faith journal, write "With faith I can move mountains!"

Draw the outline of three mountains. On each mountain write a challenge that you have and a short prayer asking God to help you with that challenge. Jesus asked Bartimaeus, "What would you like me to do for you?"

With faith that God will answer your prayer, write what you would like Him to do for each of the challenges.

Write sentences thanking Him for answering your prayers.

Parents, guide your children in examining their lives and putting thought into their answers.

For Grade 1 you may focus more on faith statements such as "I believe God gave me my parents to take care of me." "I believe God made me wonderful", "I believe God will help me when I need it." They can dictate the sentences and draw pictures to match.

Check In: Parents, take a picture your child's journal page and email it to mfitzpatrick@sjnovi.net.

Closing Prayer: Dear Jesus, St. Augustine said, "Faith is to believe what you do not see. The reward of this faith is to see what you believe." As Bartimaeus called out to Jesus in faith, may we call out to Jesus to heal us, to help us to see that you are at work in our lives, and that you will coach us and build our faith. Amen.