

Vacation Church School
Life of Christ #1

Lesson: Blind Bartimus

Mark10:46-52

Memory Verse...w/o faith impossible to please Him? Faith verse...?

Goals: By the end of the lesson the student should be able to:

1. Know the story came from the Bible
2. Remember the name of the main Character
3. Relate the events of the story
4. Remember the memory verse

Vocabulary:

1. faith
2. blind

Materials Needed:

Introduction:

- Sandpaper
- Glue
- Pencil
- Poster board/cardstock
- Scissors
- Patterns: star, golden plates, church, and praying hands
- Blindfold for each student

Story:

- Flannel board/tag board or poster board
- Glue
- Scissors
- Markers/Crayons
- Velcro dots
- Pictures: Biblical city scene, Jesus, crowds, blind Bartimus, and Healed Bartimus

Review: *Help Bartimus Get To Jesus Picture* (Like Pin the tail on the Donkey)

- Large Picture of Jesus(Can be found at Christian bookstore)
- Construction Paper
- Wall putty
- Picture of Bartimus
- Blindfolds

Craft: *Seeing the world through Bartimus' eyes*

- Several color transparency sheets
- Scissors
- Glue
- Hole Punch
- Crayons/Markers
- Poster board

- ❑ Yarn/String
- ❑ Glasses pattern

Craft: Jesus Opens Bartimeus' Eyes Picture

- ❑ Black Construction paper
- ❑ Scissors
- ❑ A Sheet of computer paper
- ❑ Crayons/Markers
- ❑ Glue

Optional Outside Game: Blind Bartimeus' Bean bag Toss

- ❑ Chalk
- ❑ Bean bags
- ❑ Blindfold

Preparation:

1. Introduction:

With patterns draw on the sandpaper two per child
Cut out patterns and glue to poster board/cardstock. Cut apart into squares.

2. Story:

Make copies of pictures, color, glue to poster or tag board. Cut out and Laminate.
Stick Velcro tape to backs of pictures.

3. Review:

Trace and cut out, from construction paper, six pictures of Bartimus. On the back of each picture print one of the following questions from the story.

Questions:

1. What was wrong with Bartimeus? (*Blind*)
2. What was Bartimeus doing beside the road? (*begging*)
3. What did Bartimeus do when he heard Jesus was there? (Shouted to Jesus)
4. What did Bartimeus want from Jesus? (To be able to see)
5. What did Jesus do for Bartimeus? (made him see)
6. Does Jesus love us just like He loved Bartimeus? How do we know Jesus loves us? (Answers may vary)

4. Craft: Seeing The World Through Bartimeus' Eyes

On poster board trace and cut out glasses patterns-three per child and three for the sample.

Cut out the inside circles on the glasses.

To make colored lenses for the glasses-trace two circles per child and two for the sample of each color of transparency paper.

Use the glasses pattern, just don't trace over the loop in the corner for the hole to be punched to attach the glasses.

Cut two 7" strips of string or yarn for each child and two for the sample craft.

Punch out holes marked on the sides of the glasses.

To Make sample craft: Set out three sets of glasses and glue a different color of transparency paper to the back of each of the glasses. Punch out the holes in the corners of the glasses and tie the three sets together.

5. Craft: Jesus Opens Bartimeus' Eyes Picture

Lay computer paper over the picture and trace the eye circles. Cut out traced pattern and lay on black construction paper. Draw two circles per child and for the sample craft.

To make the sample craft, color a picture tracing the eyes and drawing in the colored part of the eye. Fold two circles in half. Glue upper edge of circles to the top of the eyes. Fold down to cover eyes.

5. Outside Game: Blind Bartimeus' Bean Bag toss

No preparation time needed.

Introduction:

We're going to play a little game with our eyes closed. We're going to try and match these shapes just by feeling them with our fingers. We can't peek. We just have to feel and when we find two things that match, put one on top of the other. When everyone has finished we'll see how we did matching things with our eyes closed.

Blindfold each child and set it as far apart from each other as possible so they don't get their items mixed up. Some may have to sit on the floor. Lay a set of all the matching shapes in front of each child. As kids finish, remove their blindfolds.

It's hard to do things without your eyes isn't it?

Hold up the Bible

Bartimeus, our Bible hero for today, had to do everything without his eyes. Let's find out what happened to him.

Story: (Story adapted from "Blind Bartimeus" by Kathy Allen Falk from *Bible Lessons for Little People No. 2*)

Set up flannelboard. Place the Biblical City scene against board. Place figure of Bartimeus.

"Please, money for a blind man. Can you help me? Money for a blind man!" Bartimeus sat by the road and begged people for money.

Even though Bartimeus could not see, he could hear. He knew the sound of a donkey pulling a cart. He knew when small children ran past. But today he heard something new.

Place crowd figures.

A large crowd of people was passing by. The crowd was walking slowly. The people seemed to be listening to one man. Bartimeus could hear people asking questions.

"What is going on? Who is that man?" Bartimeus asked. Who do you think it was? It was Jesus!

Place figure of Jesus

Bartimeus had heard of Jesus. He knew Jesus had been telling people about God. Everyone talked about the wonderful things Jesus had done.

“Jesus, Jesus, have mercy on me!” Bartimeus cried.

“Shh! Be quiet!” said some of the people.

Bartimeus only yelled louder, “Jesus, have mercy on me!”

Jesus heard Bartimeus and stopped walking. “Bring the man to me,” said Jesus.

The crowd told Bartimeus that Jesus wanted to see him. Bartimeus jumped up and came to Jesus.

Move Bartimeus close to Jesus.

“What do you want me to do for you?” asked Jesus.

“Lord, I want to see,” said Bartimeus.

Jesus looked at Bartimeus. Jesus knew that Bartimeus had faith that He could help him. Jesus was glad Bartimeus had such faith in him, even though He probably had never talked to Bartimeus before. Jesus said, “Begin seeing! Because you believe in me so much, I have made you well.”

And just like that, Bartimeus could see! He was so happy! “Thank you! Thank you!” Bartimeus said to Jesus. The people around Bartimeus praised God too.

Then Bartimeus followed after Jesus.

Start moving Jesus figure away and have Bartimeus follow Him.

We may not be blind like Bartimeus but sometimes we need Jesus’ help just like Bartimeus did. Jesus loves us. When we have something wrong, He wants us to keep asking and believe in God just like Bartimeus did.

Review: Help Bartimeus Get to Jesus Picture Review

1. Attach wall putty to large picture of Jesus and attach to wall.
2. Attach wall putty to backs of pictures of Bartimeus.
3. Select the child to go first. Blindfold him/her and give him/her Bartimeus picture with the first question on the back. Ask question #1.
4. Tell him to help Bartimeus get to Jesus by sticking the picture of Bartimeus on the picture of Jesus.
5. Continue with remaining questions.
6. If there are extra children repeat until everyone has had a turn or as long as interest continues.

Craft: See the world through Bartimeus’ eyes:

After Jesus gave Bartimeus his sight he saw many beautiful colors he had never seen before. Colors like these other glasses I’m looking through.

Look through glasses.

1. Hand out three sets of glasses to each child.
2. Set out crayons and let them color the front of the glasses.
3. Give each child three different color of lenses. Help with glue if necessary and have the students glue the lenses to the back of the glasses.

4. Tie strips of string or yarn through glasses and tie around children's heads.
5. If some of the kids finish first they can begin work on the next craft.

Craft: Jesus Opens Bartimeus' Eyes:

1. Have children color Bartimeus.
2. Glue folded black paper to the top of the eyes.
3. Fold paper down to demonstrate when Bartimeus was blind and fold back up to show that Jesus made him see.

Outside bean bag toss:

1. Draw circle on concrete with chalk.
2. Have the kids take turns trying to toss the beanbag into the circle blindfolded.
3. Repeat how hard it is to do things without your eyes and what a wonderful blessing Jesus gave Bartimeus.

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