

# Family Page

Just like Bartimaeus, Jesus calls you to come to him. And just like Bartimaeus, you want to throw off anything that gets in your way, anything that slows you down. Bad habits are like that. . . they get in the way of your truly coming to God.

This week have each member of the family make a list of the habits he or she would like to get rid of. Every night, check off how well you did.

For example, if one of your bad



habits is beginning to fill your plate before everyone has said grace at a meal, write that down. Every time you go a whole day waiting to say grace before filling your plate, give yourself a star. If you miss, put an X by the habit so you will know to try harder.

## Dearest Lord JESUS,

Sometimes I am like Bartimaeus, trying hard to see you and to follow you.

To do this I need your help.

I need to know my bad habits and to learn the best way to live in love.

I want to be near you always.

Please help me to be better and better each day. Then, like Bartimaeus, I will follow you forever and come to you and the Father in heaven one day.

Amen



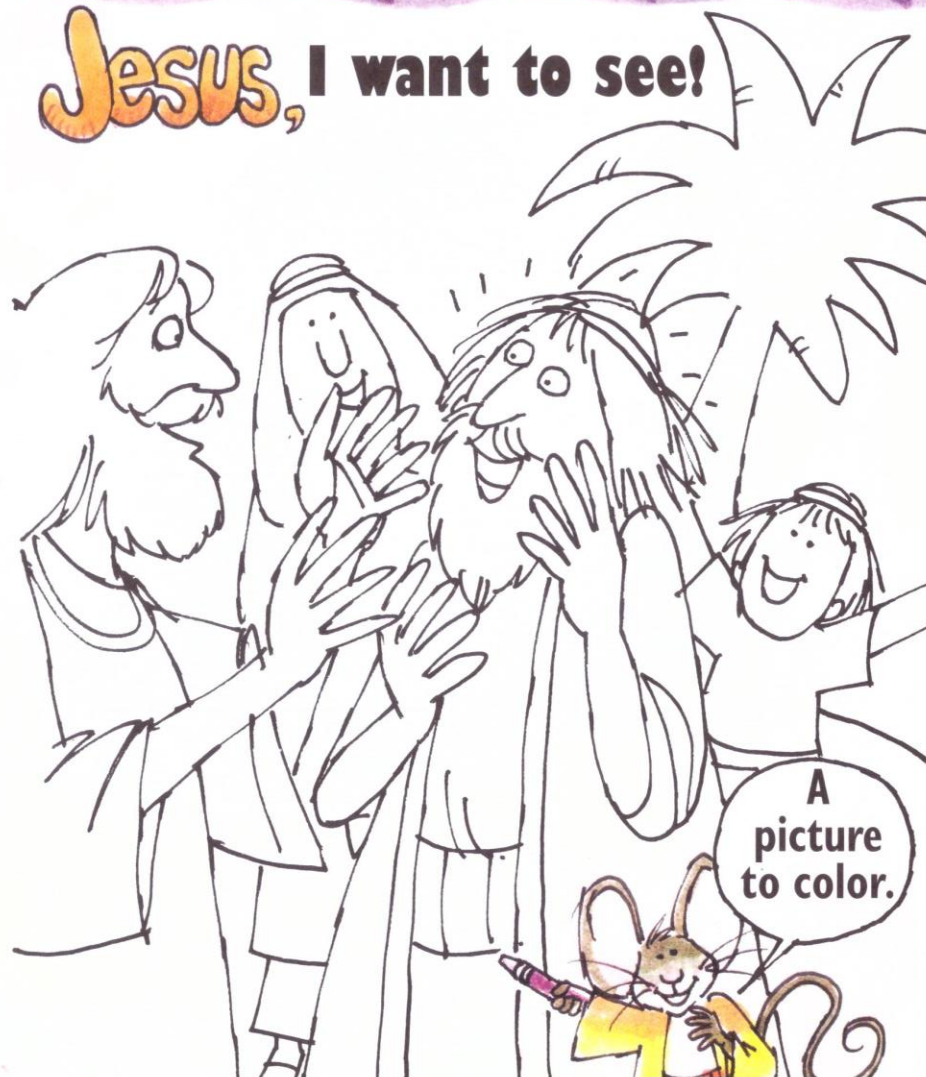
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# explaining GOD'S WORD

Thirtieth Sunday in Ordinary Time (B) • Mark 10:46-52 • October 24, 2021

## Jesus, I want to see!





# The Blind Man From Jericho

Bartimaeus was a blind man from Jericho. He'd never seen a bluebird or a rainbow bright. But he could smell the flowers and touch the grass and feel the warm sun rising after the night.

He would ask the Lord in his prayers each night, "Please, let me see the lovely world you've made." But when morning came and his world was still dark, he'd wonder if God could hear when he prayed.

One day he was begging just outside of town, and he heard many people coming down the road.

"Move, you beggar, and let Jesus pass by!" yelled a man who had stepped from the crowd.

Bartimaeus' heart skipped a beat or two, when he heard that the Son of God was near. "Maybe he will answer my prayer," he thought, and he called out loudly so Jesus would hear.

The crowd tried to hush him and push him aside, but Bartimaeus continued to make his plea. There on the roadside the blind beggar sat, shouting, "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!"



Jesus stopped talking when Bartimaeus called. "Call him over," he said to those who were near. So they went to Bartimaeus and said, "Get up! He is calling you. You have nothing to fear."

"Now the poor blind beggar was so eager to go, he threw off his old, ragged coat in his glee. Jesus asked him, "What can I do for you?" "Oh, Lord," said Bartimaeus, "I want to see!"

"Be on your way," Jesus told him then. "Your faith has healed you." And lo and behold! Bartimaeus saw bluebirds and flowers and grass, and, best of all, the loving face of the Lord.

Don't think that God doesn't know of your faith or hear the words that you pray in the night. Believe in God's love and don't give up hope, for to answer your prayer is God's greatest delight.

