

Faith on Fire

Family Lesson

Week of Oct. 17, 2021

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time
(Weekly dated October 24)

Opening Prayer

+All seeing God,
Thank you for the gift of
our eyes to see You in your
creation. Help us to see
You & believe in You like
Bartimaeus.

Thank you for...We are
sorry for. . . and we ask for
your help with . . .
In Jesus' name we pray,
Amen +

Jesus Cures a Blind Man - Mark 10:46-52

(Overview for Adult Leader)

In Sunday's Gospel, the blind beggar Bartimaeus calls out to Jesus in faith *before* he sees Jesus with his eyes. Bartimaeus is the ideal disciple in Mark's Gospel because he follows Jesus as soon as he can see. Unlike those disciples who knew Jesus face-to-face, the blind man Bartimaeus has to make up his mind about who Jesus is without the benefit of seeing him. In this way, Bartimaeus represents all Christians who believe in Jesus on the basis of what they have been told about him. For us, as for Bartimaeus, faith make us whole. Faith is both a gift of God and a human response, a relationship by which one trusts and adheres to God and the content of God's revelation, which one believes.

QUICK CONNECT (10 min)

Begin by each child completing the front cover of *their* Gospel Weekly (3 min)

NOTE: Families with **ONLY PROMISE** children, please go [HERE](#) for your Parent Teaching Guide which includes opening story, Gospel. & questions. You may look at this Family Guide for extra resources.

DO ALL TOGETHER - READ THE OPENING STORY This is a quick opportunity for everyone to listen to **ONE** story which will prepare them for the Gospel. (If you have students in different levels, pick just one story.)

Do the Know/Think questions (yellow boxes except Promise) **OR if you are short on time**, skip the story & pick from the optional questions below **OR** pick from the questions in the Discover Love section (on p. 3) to make a quick connection with family members & move to the Gospel Reading.



OPTIONAL Starter Questions: Pick 1 or 2 that apply to your class (Listed from easy to advanced)

- *What are some things you see around you? What about when you take a walk outside?*
- *Whom do you/we follow? What can Jesus do for us?*
- *What is seeing? with eyes? with our hearts? (to look beyond what our eyes see)*

Catholic Faith Word: A great way to start your Scripture time together is to do hangman with the Catholic Faith Word. Choose one word if you have multiple children or if time permits do multiple words!



Discover the Gospel TOGETHER - 20 min

(Overview for Adult Leader) Jesus looks beyond what eyes see and into our hearts. God is the Father and Creator of all. We must respect and care for all people and all of God's Creation. When we do this, we are showing respect to God. Believing is possible only by grace and the interior helps of the Holy Spirit. But it is no less true that believing is an authentically human act. "The act of faith is of its very nature a free act...Christ invited people to faith and conversion, but never coerced them. " (Catechism, #160)

Read the Gospel (find in their Bible) OR read/act out the Gospel Play from ONE of the printed Gospel Weeklies - Mark 10:46-52



TOGETHER do the Gospel Reflection Questions found in your child's Weekly (in yellow boxes-except Promise) & most explained below.

Why did Bartimaeus ask Jesus for help? *He wants to see.*

Why did Jesus help him? *Jesus loves his people and always wants to help us.*

Why do the people in the Gospel scold Bartimaeus when he calls out to Jesus? How do they see Bartimaeus? *People may have looked down on Bartimaeus, thinking his blindness a punishment for sin or taking advantage of his vulnerability. They may have been ashamed of him or embarrassed that Bartimaeus called attention to himself. They view him as unworthy of approaching a holy man like Jesus.*

What does Bartimaeus, even though he is blind, see in Jesus? *Bartimaeus calls Jesus 'Son of David', a title showing he sees/believes Jesus to be the kingly Messiah; he probably has heard stories about Jesus and made an assessment of him. Bartimaeus recognizes (**sees**) Jesus as the one who can heal his blindness.*

What does Jesus see in Bartimaeus? *Jesus sees in Bartimaeus a person who believes in him, asking for help. Jesus says his faith heals him.*

What did Bartimaeus do after he was healed? *He shows great faith by jumping up and coming to Jesus;*

What shows that Bartimaeus becomes a disciple of Jesus? *He follows Jesus up the road and becomes a disciple.*

How is faith like seeing? *Faith helps us see people's inner humanity, their values and individual qualities; faith sees what oneself or others can be and do.*

Think of a time you saw something one way but then saw it differently. What changed?

Have each child work on ***their*** pages in What the Church Believes & Teaches (WCBT)

Each child will work individually in their book as they may not be covering the same content.

Promise students will look at Jesus Wants us to do the Right Thing p. 22 (bottom)

Good News students will look at the Great Commandment p. 32; The Act of Love p. 50

Venture students: What Does the New Law of Love Ask of Us? p. 36-37

Visions students will look at the Ten Commandments p. 32-34; God's Law p. 32; New Law p. 35



Go Live It!! (10 min)

Focus on respecting others & finding new ways/things to see.



Show us what you've learned or how you've lived your faith this week!

Due Next Sunday

Give this a try! Have each person share what was a high and what was a low for the day. Share your own. This is a great prayer to use at meal time as everyone is eating! Certainly better than 'How was your day?!' (I usually got one word answers to that one!)

Closing Prayer:

Loving God, we thank you for being with us in all of these experiences. We love you and trust you. Amen. +

Find Assignment Form [HERE](#)

Encouraging our students/families to be actively involved in growing their faith is one of our goals this year. You will notice our homework options include many different experiences. Together, let's take one step closer to God!

Car Rides Review Questions!

Can you tell me what the Gospel was about?
Why do you think this story is in the Bible?
What did we learn from the Gospel?

INTERESTED IN A LITTLE MORE ADVENTURE?! CHECK OUT THESE ADDITIONAL RESOURCES!!



To receive weekly tips from Pflaum Weekly click [here](#)

Saint of the Week: St. Therese of Lisieux

Frequently, only silence can express my prayer. Let us not grow tired of prayer: confidence works miracles.

Learn about the Real Presence of Christ in the Eucharist

"Do you realize that Jesus is there in the tabernacle expressly for you---for you alone? He burns with the desire to come into your heart." ~St Therese of the Child Jesus (Lisieux)

[Click for a very short powerful way to help you explain the true presence of the Eucharist](#)

Younger Students

- Quick video to learn [10 Commandments](#)
- [Bible Bag Story of Bartimaeus](#) (8 min)

Older Students

- [Baptism 101](#) (6 min) Excellent explanation!

Adults

- [Sacraments 101: Receiving the Eucharist](#) (4 min)
- [Opening of Vatican II](#) (26 min) enlightening!
- [The Years are Short](#) (2 min) DON'T MISS THIS!



Discover God's Love

How can you follow Jesus more closely? What is your heart's desire? How does it compare to God's desire for you and your life? When have you called to Jesus for help?