

Small Group Discussion Guide

Mark 10:46-52

“Say it Louder”

Based on Sunday's
Sermon 10/4/26

Background

“This fertile, luxurious city (Jericho) became a favorite resting place for Jews headed for Jerusalem. They needed to gather their strength—pilgrims faced a 2,950-foot climb in less than 20 miles along a craggy, serpentine road lined with bandits.”

¹ “This passage marks a milestone in our Lord’s ministry. It is the last of His healings recorded in Mark’s gospel, and one of the last before His death (He also healed the ear of the high priest’s slave in Gethsemane [John 18:10] and performed healings in the temple after He drove out the merchants [Matt. 21:14]). It is also the next to last miracle recorded by Mark (the last was the withering of the fig tree in Mark 11:12–14, 20–21). Jesus’ first miracle had taken place in Cana, a village in Galilee not far from Nazareth, where He turned water into wine (John 2:1–11); this one took place in the vicinity of Jericho. From Nazareth in the north of Galilee to Jericho in the south of Judea, Jesus bracketed Israel with countless miracles, which conclusively exhibited His absolute power over nature, disease, and the demonic realm. Those miracles demonstrated both His deity and His compassion. The ultimate miracle, His resurrection from the dead, was still to come. But before that final and greatest miracle, the Servant of the Lord would become the suffering servant; the anointed one would become the rejected one, and the sovereign Lord would become the sacrificial Lamb of God.”²

“Mark’s Gospel identifies the beggar as Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus (MARK 10:46). This level of detail strongly suggests that Mark’s audience knew the formerly blind man as a follower of Jesus. He may have become a prominent leader in the early days of the Christian movement. In any case, the man addressed Jesus by His messianic title and asked for mercy.”³

Discussion Questions

Getting Started

1. Tell about a time you persisted in something even when people tried to discourage you. What kept you going?

¹ Charles R. Swindoll, *Mark*, Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary (Tyndale House Publishers, 2018), 288.

² John MacArthur, *Mark 9–16*, MacArthur New Testament Commentary (Chicago, IL: Moody Publishers, 2015), 111–112.

³ Charles R. Swindoll, *Mark*, Swindoll’s Living Insights New Testament Commentary (Tyndale House Publishers, 2018), 289.

Observation

2. Where is Jesus traveling from and to in this passage, and why is that significant in Mark's narrative?
3. What details are given about Bartimaeus? What stands out about his condition, his location, and his actions?
4. What does Jesus ask Bartimaeus, and how does Bartimaeus respond?
5. What is the final outcome of the encounter?

Interpretation

6. What does Bartimaeus call Jesus? Why is the title "**Son of David**" important?
7. Jesus asks, "*What do you want me to do for you?*" How does this question connect to the same question Jesus asked James and John earlier in Mark 10:35–45?
8. Read Psalm 86:1-10. How does this passage reflect the attitude seen in Bartimaeus?

Application

9. If Jesus asked you today, "What do you want Me to do for you?" what would your honest answer be?
10. Bartimaeus follows Jesus immediately. What would it look like for you to follow Jesus more fully this week with the attitude that Bartimaeus portrayed?

Prayer List: