

Series: MARK: the life of a disciple

Title: Mercy

Passage: Mark 10:46–52

Identifying Desperation (vv. 46–48)

Bartimaeus is painfully aware of his need—and unafraid to name it publicly.

- Where do you most resonate with the tendency to “clean yourself up” before approaching God rather than coming honestly?
- Why is it often easier to address surface-level issues (habits, productivity, health) than deeper areas of desperation (fear, shame, sin, grief)?
- The crowd tried to silence Bartimaeus. What voices (internal or external) tend to minimize or dismiss your need?
- What is an area of your life where you feel stuck, limited, or dependent right now? Why that area?
- What if the place you feel weakest is actually the most strategic place for God to work? What makes that idea difficult to accept?

Shattering Assumptions (vv. 49–51)

Jesus stops. He calls. He asks.

- The crowd assumed Jesus would keep moving. What assumptions do you make about how Jesus responds to needs?
- Which is more natural for you: assuming Jesus is indifferent, or assuming He expects you to fix things first? Why?
- Bartimaeus throws aside his cloak—likely his only security. What “cloak” might you be holding onto instead of fully trusting Jesus?
- V51: Why do you think Jesus asks instead of assuming?
- How do your assumptions about Jesus shape your prayer life (or lack of it)?

Faith in Motion (v. 52)

Faith is not abstract—it moves toward Jesus and follows Him.

- Bartimaeus doesn't just receive healing—he follows Jesus. What does that reveal about the goal of mercy?
- Where have you reduced faith to belief instead of active dependence?
- Why is it important to distinguish between trusting Jesus and expecting a specific outcome?

Prayer

Pray for one another specifically in the areas of application named above.