

ALLEY SG – September 14 - 15, 2024

Today's Bible Story: Take Time (Jesus Heals Bartimaeus) • *Mark 10:46-52*

Today's Key Question: When has someone made time for you?

Today's Bottom Line: Make time to help others.

Monthly Memory Verse: *"Let your light shine so others can see it. Then they will see the good things you do. And they will bring glory to your Father who is in heaven."* Matthew 5:16 (NIRV)

1. Bible Story Extension

Bible Story Review

What You Need: "Flashlight Trivia" Activity Page (2 per group), black posterboard (one per group per service), white chalk (1 piece per group), flashlights (2 per group)

What You Do:

- Divide the group into two teams.
- Direct teams to gather on opposite sides of the group space and come up with a team name.
- Place a piece of black posterboard between the teams.
- Use chalk to draw a line through the center of the posterboard, dividing it in half.
- Write a team name on each half of the posterboard.
- Choose one kid from each team to go first and invite them to stand at the edge of the black posterboard, facing each other.
- Hand each volunteer a flashlight.
- Explain that you are going to ask a trivia question from today's Bible story using the "Flashlight Trivia" Activity Page.
 - If they know the answer, they shine their flashlight onto the black posterboard.
 - Whoever flashes their light first gets to answer the question.
- If they answer the question correctly, use the chalk to draw two tally marks on their side of the posterboard.
- If they answer the question incorrectly, the other contestant will get a chance to answer. If correct, draw just one tally mark on their side of the posterboard.
- If neither contestant answers the question correctly, share the correct answer with everyone. No one gets a point.
- Repeat with a different kid from each team until all trivia questions from the "Flashlight Trivia" Activity Page have been asked.
- Celebrate the team with the most points as the winning team.
- Ask:
 - How did being blind impact Bartimaeus? *(Kids will likely emphasize he couldn't see. Lead them to discover he was also likely cast out of society, left to beg on the streets, and not able to be in community with others. That must have been extremely lonely.)*
 - Other than the ability to see, what did Bartimaeus gain when Jesus healed him? *(Community with people and an even stronger faith in Jesus.)*
 - Did it show weakness or strength when Bartimaeus called out for help from Jesus? *(Strength because sometimes it takes courage to ask for help! Sometimes, we worry about what people might think about us if we need help. Bartimaeus' belief in Jesus' ability to help him shows us how strong his faith was.)*
- Remind kids that you never know how showing compassion might affect someone else. It's so important that we make time to help others!

2. Take a Snapshot

Application Activity

What You Need: “Prayer Plan” Activity Page (one per kid), pens

What You Do:

- Direct kids to spread out in your group space.
- Explain that when we pay more attention to others, we are more likely to notice what they need.
 - We may not be able to plan for those needs, but we can practice making ourselves aware and available.
 - One way we can help others is by spending time praying for them.
- Give each kid a copy of the “Prayer Plan” Activity Page and a pen or pencil.
- Give kids time to think of how they can make a plan to pray throughout the week.
 - They can take time to write in the space provided on their “Prayer Plan” Activity Page about how they plan to pray and who they plan to pray for.
- Offer suggestions if kids need prompting for ideas on when to pray, where to pray, etc.
- Ask:
 - Why is it sometimes difficult to make time to help others?
 - Have you ever had to give up something to help someone else?

3. Discussion Questions

- When has someone made time for you?
- How does it make you feel when someone makes time for you?
- Do you like receiving help from someone else? Why or why not?
- Why is time so valuable?
- What are some ways you can make time to help others?

4. Verses to Take with You

Verse Activity

What You Need: Prepared “Seek and Find” Cards (one set per group in a baggie), Bibles

What You Do:

- Divide groups into pairs or group of 3 if needed.
- Give each pair a Bible and ask them to look up the verse reference written on it.
 - Allow kids to help each other with finding the verses if needed.
- Give each pair a turn to read their verse out loud for the entire group.
- After each verse, ask:
 - What stands out to you about this verse?
 - What does it have to do with helping others?

AT THE 5- MINUTE CALL:

PRAY

- Ask, “Does anyone have any prayer requests or things they want to thank God for from this week? *(Let the kids share their prayer requests and praises)*”

- Take some time to pray for these things as a group, then finish with the prayer below...

“Dear God, thank You for the reminder that sometimes we may not see the needs of others unless we stop and look closely. Please help us have compassion so we can recognize and respond to the needs of those around us. Help us to be mindful of the people we see every day and give us the courage to reach out and help them in any way we can. We love You, and we pray these things in Jesus’ name. Amen.”

- If there is still time, pass out the Parent Discussion Guides to the kids and begin to read through them together. Remind them they can do the activity at home to bring back next week for a prize.

PARENT PICK UP POINT: As adults arrive to pick up, encourage the kids to tell their parent who they are going to pray for this week.