

Lenten devotions * Week 2 * Serve

Scripture: Mark 10:46-52

As Jesus and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here."

And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Questions:

- Pretend you're Bartimaeus. Why are you yelling so loudly?
- Pretend you're part of the crowd. Why are you ordering Bartimaeus to be quiet?

Going Deeper:

- Pretend you're Jesus. What do you mean when you tell Bartimaeus that his faith has made him well?
- Why do you think Bartimaeus follows Jesus? What might he be hoping to see?

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Activity:

This week, have a "Yes Day" (or maybe a "yes afternoon," if that seems more manageable). After setting a few parameters – for cost and safety – set off an on adventure of affirmation, where parents promise to agree to whatever kids ask: Pizza for breakfast? Ok! Read that story six times? Why not?! Stay up late? Sounds like fun!

Have a great time. And, if it won't spoil all the fun, at the end, reflect on how saying yes to one another is an act of serving each other.

Notice how Jesus asked Bartimaeus, "What do you want me to do for you?" And when Bartimaeus named his wish, Jesus said yes. How heard, and seen, and valued must Bartimaeus have felt, to have been able to say what he longed for, and to have received it?

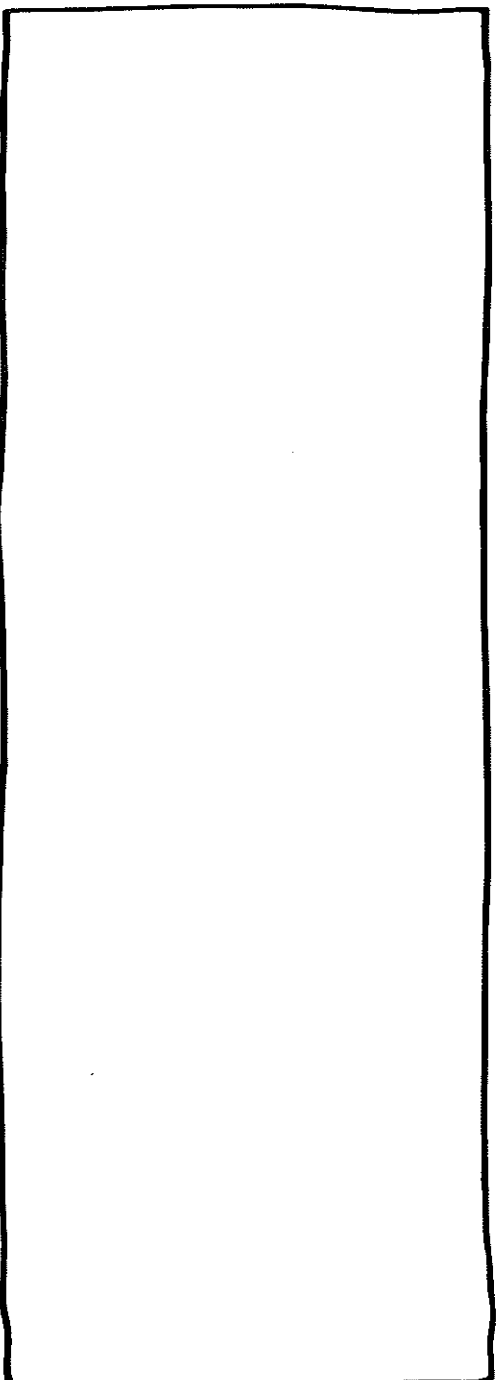
Prayer:

*Gracious God,
You know us; you see us and you hear us.
You delight in our delight.
Thank you for giving us chances
to celebrate one another
and to share our joy. Amen.*



WEEK 2: SERVE

THIS WEEK, OUR THEME WORD IS SERVE. IN ORDER TO FOCUS ON WHAT SERVING LOOKS LIKE IN OUR LIVES, WE HAVE ALL AGREED TO WORK ON THE FOLLOWING:



signed by: _____