

CELEBRATION BIBLE STUDY NOTES  
'GREAT LESSONS FROM THE LESS KNOWN'



*“God gives a fresh start to those ready to quit.” Psalm 145:14*

Mark 10:46 “... *sitting beside the road.*”

Mark 10:52 “... *following Jesus on the road!*”

There are times when we feel like we are sitting on the side of the road while the world passes us by. We may feel discouraged, disillusioned, and ready to quit. But Jesus is ready to offer us a fresh start if we put our trust in him. In this study we will look at how Jesus took Bartimaeus from being a blind beggar sitting on the side of the road, to a person who was following Jesus on the road. Jesus wants to do the same for us. Whatever is keeping us sitting on the side of the road, Jesus can heal if we put the problem in his hands and trust in him. This study looks at five steps we need to take if we want Jesus to give us a fresh START.

*Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means “son of Timaeus”), was sitting by the roadside begging. <sup>47</sup> When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>48</sup> Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” <sup>49</sup> Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.” So they called to the blind man, “Cheer up! On your feet! He’s calling you.” <sup>50</sup> Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus. <sup>51</sup> “What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him. The blind man said, “Rabbi, I want to see.” <sup>52</sup> “Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road. Mark 10:46-52*

### 1. SEIZE the moment.

According to Mark 10:46-47, what did Bartimaeus do when he heard Jesus going by?

- Why is it important to act when the Lord is near?

In Luke 9:62, what does Jesus say about looking back?

- How does this speak to the idea of seizing the moment?

### 2. TAME your fear.

Read Mark 10:48. What does this verse say Bartimaeus did when he was told to be quiet?

- What are some examples of when people can get fearful, especially when it comes to fear of others’ opinions.

- Whose disapproval do we fear the most? These fears are often the god's in our lives. According to John 6:37, what does God say he won't do if someone comes to him?

- Why can we believe the lie that God is not interested in us? What truth can we replace this lie with?

Read Proverbs 29:25. What does this verse say fear does? How can we be protected from it?

- Discuss how Christians can let the promises of God release their paralysis due to others' opinions?

### **3. ANNOUNCE your faith.**

In Mark 10:51, what was the response of Bartimaeus to Jesus' question, "What do you want me to do for you?"

- Why does Jesus ask Bartimaeus this question?

### **4. RECEIVE God's grace.**

According to Jesus in Mark 10:52a, what made the blind man see?

- How does faith help believers receive more of God's grace?

### **5. TAKE the next step.**

What happened according to Mark 10:52b?

Read James 2:14. What does this verse say about a faith that does nothing?

- Why is it important to understand that works alone will not be sufficient?
- Why is it important to not let our works be viewed as something we do, but something God does in us?