BELMONT UNITING CHURCH

WELCOME 24th October Weekly Newsletter 2021



The book of Job is one of the places in the Bible that openly addresses the question of suffering, and attempts to make sense of why this man has suffered so much.

The central section of Job is a long poem in which Job is in dialogue with his friends, who offer a varied degree of bad advice about how to deal with grief and suffering. And now, here at the end of the story that the lectionary has been following over the past month, after God spoke to Job from the whirlwind, although not directly addressing Job's complaint, Job answers God's speech.

Bible scholars debate about whether the narrative chapters at the beginning and end of Job were added later and whether they try to change the meaning of the story, but what is clear from these verses is that there is a great deal of contradiction and confusion in Job's response to God's appearance at the end of the story.

The first lesson this passage has to share with us is: that not always in life can we make sense of everything that happens - and that is OK! Life can be full of unanswered questions. It is often the case that in our effort to make sense of it all, it unintentionally leads us to disappointment and despair.

Confusion and contradiction are rife in the book of Job, and indeed across many areas of the Bible that deal with difficult subjects. Yet, too often, across the course of Christian history, we have tried to make the answers simple, we have said to those in grief 'it is part of God's plan', or those living in pain 'you should pray about it more often'. We have simplified complicated human stories into 'good and bad', 'right and wrong', 'Godly or ungodly'. If Job teaches us anything, it is that things are more complicated than they seem!

Even as we pray for a better world and the dawning of a new morning, we recognise it is also our responsibility to be a part of the solution in bringing that about. From the Gospel of the week, even as he is healed, Bartimaeus demonstrates what good discipleship looks like - he sets off to follow Jesus. As we encounter a God who comes to us in our most broken, most painful places, perhaps we learn to follow him, to demonstrate that brokenness is real, but in the end, love wins.

Rev Ikani



Latest on our Sunday Worship Services - more details on page 4 Sunday 24th October - 10.00 am Online worship



Our minds cannot deal with the terrible destruction of individual human lives as a result of this pandemic.

Funeral services, gravesites and memorials are overwhelmed. Many have no grave, such is the devastation and havoc. Yet each has come from some home, family or place. And each is someone loved and valued.

Where we live each day, many birds visit our backyard. There are magpies, crows, starlings, currawongs and the diving butcher bird, who grabs a morsel in his sharp beak and is airborne in a flash.

Kitchen scraps and worms are on the menu, even bringing their babies on a visit. But lately, there are no sparrows. All have disappeared. Have the bigger birds driven them off? How we miss their busyness.

In the time of Jesus, sparrows were prominent and sold as cheap food in the marketplace.

Jesus said each one had more than the monetary value in his Father's eyes. They were equal partners with all living things in the created world. Though cheap and small, He knew and valued each one. Not one fell to the ground without him knowing.

Jesus believed that all living things were of priceless value to his Father. And his human family is of the same value, in person and by name, not one falls to the ground without him knowing, caring and loving.

This is our faith. Hard to comprehend, but the hope which transcends all loss.

Reflection:

Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father, and even the hairs of your head are counted. So do not be afraid, you are of more value than many sparrows. Matthew 10: 29-31

Whatever the cost to human life as a result of the pandemic, not one soul is forever lost. He knows and loves each one. And there is room in the Father's home for all.



BELMONT UNITING EVENING FELLOWSHIP



Hi all...our lunch next week was to be in Queenscliff followed by the Art Gallery.

After contacting or checking with 21 places that cannot happen. No one will take a group of more than 10 people. Those who will are not taking them until after Oct 29th and are also wanting a digital Covid Check in and a Vaccination green tick.

Until we get everyone with these requirements or the hard copies that are available, which take up to 14 days, we cannot go anywhere as a group.

So I am proposing a 12 noon lunch at Church, catered by DAL, in individual boxes - cost \$14.50. Dietary & Gluten free is available for extra \$2. Cuppa provided. After lunch and fellowship we can catch up on business. Remember also we have missed 4 months of Bushikori donations.

Please phone Julie 0418 996 592 by this Sunday re attendance and food as she must order on Monday morning. Thank you all.

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Worship At Home

Acknowledgement of Country

Today, as we gather in our homes, we acknowledge the Wauthaurong Peoples, the first inhabitants of this place from time beyond remembering. We acknowledge that through this land, God nurtured and sustained the First Peoples of this country, the Aboriginal and Islander peoples.

Unconventional discipleship

A personal prayer

God of restoration, change my heart, I pray. Where tears haunt my steps, bring me out into a place of joy. When confusion overtakes me, guide me into clarity. When I feel I cannot walk at all, carry me, O loving God, that I might be always in your presence and in your care. In Jesus' name. Amen.

Notes on the Bible readings

Mark 10.46-52 • Jeremiah 31.7-9 Hebrews 7.23-28

Jesus and his disciples are on their way to Jerusalem and pass through Jericho. They leave the town together with a large crowd. It is not clear whether the crowd are following Jesus, or if they are pilgrims on their way to Jerusalem for the Passover.

Bartimaeus is a poor, blind beggar. Unusually among those Jesus healed, he is named. He sits by the roadside, passively waiting to receive charity from passersby. The one active thing he can do is to shout. He shouts, 'Son of David', which could indicate that he understood that Jesus was the Messiah.

Bartimaeus may have been blind, but he had the insight to recognise Jesus' messianic nature, and his faith is rewarded by having his sight restored. His place within society is also restored. No longer does he need to sit on the edges and beg – he is able to claim his rightful place in the crowd, and he follows Jesus 'on the way', an unconventional but true disciple.

In Jeremiah 31.7-9, we read a promise of hope and homecoming as God's scattered people are gathered. There is no need for encouragement to care for the vulnerable and those on the margins of society; the disabled, mothers and those in labour will be brought into the heart of the community, where they will be revered. Through Jesus, Jeremiah's vision is fulfilled: Bartimaeus is no longer excluded, and through Jesus today, all people can be embraced and included.

A Prayer for Others

God, we pray for all those sitting in darkness, those who feel that they have little to offer, those who cannot see light – not even a pinprick of light – in the night that they currently endure. We ask for the candle in their hearts to be relit, and for those around them to be inspired to help them, to intervene and intercede on their behalf.

Have mercy on us, O God, have mercy on your world. We pray for those who are unsure of the way ahead, who struggle to discern the right thing to do. Give them insight and wisdom, that they may perceive the right course of action and understand what is needed.

Have mercy on us, O God, have mercy on your world. We pray for those who have been hindered by unhelpful or untrue expectations, asking that you would untangle the muddle that they find themselves in, and allowing them to see your truth and grace.

Have mercy on us, O God, have mercy on your world. We ask in the name of the living Christ. Amen.

Live your faith

Look out for people on the margins of the activities of which you are a part. Ask them if they want to be more involved (sometimes all it takes is for them to be asked!).

Questions for reflection

- ► How might these people be shouting?
- How do you let your news and views be known?
- How often do you share the 'good news'?



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Date 7		Leader's Steward	Readers	Greeters & Ushers		PA Opeator	<u>Organist</u>
Oct 24	10.00am Rev. Ikai	ni R. Pearson	B. Couper	<u>R. Ferguson</u>	L. McCann	R. Bunting	L. Rankin
				D. Stephens			
Oct 24	Communion	Flowers	Morning Tea				
	N/A	B. Couper	H. McCann				
	J. & G. Schneider						
Date T	ime Leader	Leader's Steward	Readers	Greeters & Ushers	PowerPoint	PA Operator	<u>Organist</u>
Oct 31	10.00am TBA	J. Ferguson	H. McCann	C. Schaller	L. McCann	B. Jennings	L. Rankin
		• •		E. Wood		•	
			Morning Tea				
Oct 31	Communion	Flowers		Morning Tea			
Oct 31	Communion N/A	<u>Flowers</u> B. Pullin					
Oct 31				Morning Tea W. & F. Harper K. Haas			
Oct 31 Date T	N/A		Readers	W. & F. Harper	PowerPoint	PA Operator	Organist
	N/A	B. Pullin	Readers N. Phillips	W. & F. Harper K. Haas Greeters & Ushers		PA Operator D. Zucarro	Organist L. Rankin
Date T	N/A ime Leader	B. Pullin Leader's Steward		W. & F. Harper K. Haas Greeters & Ushers	PowerPoint		
Date T	N/A Sime Leader 10.00am TBA	B. Pullin Leader's Steward		W. & F. Harper K. Haas Greeters & Ushers R. Bunting	PowerPoint		
Date T Nov 7	N/A ime Leader	B. Pullin Leader's Steward D. Stephens Flowers		W. & F. Harper K. Haas Greeters & Ushers R. Bunting B. Couper	PowerPoint		
Date T Nov 7	N/A Time Leader 10.00am TBA Communion	B. Pullin Leader's Steward D. Stephens Flowers		W. & F. Harper K. Haas Greeters & Ushers R. Bunting B. Couper Morning Tea	PowerPoint		

Thank you to these willing people for keeping our Church services going. If you need to swap please endeavour to do so or if finding it difficult phone Julie 0418996592

Prayer Points For the Week

Dear Lord, help us to choose an attitude of cheerfulness and celebration as we journey through life. May we know the importance of being quick to smile and slow to be angry. Let us share Your love and goodness with all we interact with.

Loving God, we know that You are so great, yet You ask us to come to You with our needs and requests. Thank You for caring for us and help us to be persistent in prayer, even in those times when we don't see answers right away. May we trust in Your love and goodness now and in the future.

Dear Heavenly Father, we love You and want to praise You everyday. We know that it is only in You that we find our value and worth; it is impossible to get it from other people. We are self - sufficient in Christ's sufficiency; He's equipped us, empowered us and approves us, we don't have to seek other people's approval.

Peter Woods

Lectionary Readings

Oct 24 - Pentecost 22	Oct 31 - Pentecost 23	Nov 1 - All Saints Day	Nov 7 - Pentecost 24
Jb 42: 1 - 6, 10 - 17	Ru 1: 1 - 18	Is 25: 6 - 9	Ru 3: 1 - 5, 4: 13 - 17
Psalm 34: 1 - 8, (19 - 22)	Psalm 146	Psalm 24	Psalm 127
Heb 7: 23- 28	Heb 9: 11- 14	Rev 21: 1- 6a	Heb 9: 24- 28
Mark 10: 46 - 52	Mark 12: 28 - 34	In 11: 32 - 44	Mk 12: 38 - 44

How to Beat the Blues

Directions:

Ingredients:
A bunch of worries
I pound prayer
can thankfulness
package praise

To beat the blues, you must first stop stewing: turn off burner under the pot of tomorrow's worries. Turn heat down under today's pot and simmer gently for 1 minute. Stir in prayer and allow to simmer a full hour. Remove from heat. Slowly beat in thankfulness and praise at high speed until lumps disappear and mixture becomes light and frothy. Turn out and form into balls of contentment. Author unknown.

Lorraine Leitch

There will be an online worship service for this Sunday October 24th. You are welcome to join together at the same time of 10.00 am and afterwards for a chat if you wish using this zoom link:

https://zoom.us/j/99984774012?pwd=Ky85NGtwbnZqb1h2YzFGNDdDZEM1QT09 Meeting ID: 999 8477 4012 - Passcode: 1234

Online worship services will be available to be viewed via our website by 10.00am each Sunday.

October 2021 https://buc.unitingchurch.org.au

"WATCH THIS SPACE – FUNDRAISER FOR BUSHIKORI"









THANK YOU FOR STILL WATCHING THIS SPACE! FURTHER NEWS ON OUR FORTHCOMING DRIVE-THRU.

"As indicated in last week's newsletter, a special DRIVE-THRU EVENT will be held at BELMONT UNITING CHURCH on SATURDAY, 6th NOVEMBER FROM 10 am – 11am. This is a major fund-raiser for BUSHIKORI CHRISTIAN CENTRE, replacing the usual film and trivia nights which could not be held again this year because of COVID-19 restrictions. Members of St John's Anglican Church are joining with Belmont Uniting Church in this combined effort. The driveway at the front of the Belmont Uniting Church, Thomson Street, (opposite Coles carpark) is ideal for a drive-thru event, enabling us to maintain social distancing and minimum contact. Everyone attending is required to wear a suitable mask, please. Red buckets will be there to receive your donations, so there is no need to get out of your car! There will also be plants for sale. A warm smile will welcome you, even though it will be hidden behind a mask!

6th November
DRIVE-THRU

We will also be collecting non perishable food items for Uniting Barwon. Uniting Care, Geelong suggests the following food donations – Staple Foods: pasta sauce, tinned fruit & vegies, tuna, long life milk, cereal, baked beans, Coles vouchers for food (not for alcohol or cigarettes) Christmas Treats: puddings & cakes, tinned ham, sweets & chocolate, juices & soft drinks.



BUSHIKORI'S NEW DIRECTOR

As most of you are aware, Anne Wandendeya passed away on the 27th January this year.

After several months of suffering from a rare and aggressive cancer Anne died peacefully in her own home in Mbale with her family close by. Anne became Director of BCC in 1998 after the sudden death of her husband and founder of the Bushikori Christian Centre, Pastor Sam Wandendeya. She has filled this role with fortitude, courage and above all, love. She knew all those who came in need to BCC, and their families and their circumstances.

As Director of the Bushikori Christian Centre, Anne's life was committed to knowing each sponsored child and she was a mother figure to them. All who have been involved through the program in the past 26 years will always remember her faith and care.

It is no exaggeration to say hundreds in Uganda mourn and pay tribute to

this remarkable lady.

Her strength and selflessness and commitment to Jesus and His calling leaves a legacy that will be widely recognised in Uganda and she will be sorely missed. We too in Australia, who have been touched by Anne's example and witness, mourned the loss of our dear friend and sister in Christ. Recently we received the wonderful news that The Ugandan Board of Trustees for Bushikori appointed Anne's daughter, Mary, as the new Director.

Our prayers are with Mary and the Board as they continue their wonderful work at Bushikori.







For anyone wishing to support Bushikori or Uniting but cannot physically get to the **Belmont Uniting Church** on 6TH November to make your contribution, please contact Rosslyn Buckwell on 0407 326 023 or Sue & Bill Jennings on 0409431525 to arrange a person to pick up your donation from your home. THANK YOU to everyone for your continued interest and support.

Jean Murray (Mission and Outreach Committee) & Sue & Bill Jennings (Friends of Bushikori C'mtee).

IMPORTANT NOTICES

You will see in this edition some information about the new Public Health Order requiring employers to gather and record vaccination status information of workers. The term "workers" includes unpaid staff and volunteers. You may also be aware that from 15 October unvaccinated workers are not permitted to attend workplaces or work in the community, or work anywhere other than from their home.

Advice from the Synod is that the requirement applies to our worship leaders, cleaners, organists, children's leaders and anyone involved with building maintenance or gardening.

Belmont UC is required to keep a vaccination register of our "workers".

When you consider the many ways in which our members serve each other and our community on behalf of the congregation, I think we may all be classed as worker/volunteers!

If you are an office bearer, have a leadership role, or are on a roster, I would encourage you to provide your details for our vaccination register. Even if your normal volunteer or service activities are on hold, having this information will assist with helping us to reopen our church, worship services and groups.

Having an up-to-date vaccination register is going to be critical in reopening our church and our life together as restrictions ease.

The vaccination register is confidential. Only Ray Ferguson and myself (as Chairperson and Secretary) will have access to the information. We may be required to show the register to a Public Health Officer or a Worksafe officer, or to a Synod or Presbytery nominated person.

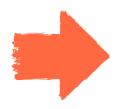
- For fully vaccinated members, the information needed is your name, vaccination certificate number, date of 2nd vaccination and vaccine type.
- For partially vaccinated members, the information needed is the date of the 1st dose, booking date of the 2nd dose, and vaccine type.
- For members with a medical exemption, we will need the medical certificate date, doctor's name, and to sight the certificate.

You can email this information to me directly at glengeel@yahoo.com.au or Ray at rayjulie@internode.on.net or put it in our pigeon holes, or speak to Ray or myself directly.

Please contact Ray or myself if you have any questions or concerns.

Glen Coomber			

If you are unable to download your Immunisation Certificate on your mobile or computer you can phone the number below to obtain your certificate by mail. This may take up to 14 days for delivery.



The Australian Immunisation Register

Phone - 1800 653 809



Monday to Friday 8 am to 5 pm

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As of Friday October 15, it is mandatory that any employer gathers and records vaccination status information on any person working anywhere other than from the worker's own residence.

Who needs to provide proof of Vaccination?

This applies to all paid staff and to any unpaid (volunteer) staff working from any location other than their own residence. This is a requirement throughout the entire state of Victoria.

Who needs to provide proof of Vaccination?

This applies to all paid staff and to any unpaid (volunteer) staff working from any location other than their own residence. This is a requirement throughout the entire state of Victoria and applies to everyone who is on the government's Authorised Worker lists. Those lists can be **found here.**

Who needs to see and record the proof of Vaccination status?

Should proof be required by Health authorities, it is important that this information be available at the place where the work is done, or from where it is coordinated. Therefore, this information needs to be provided to, and recorded by, **the Church Council** for any authorised work activity on any church property or on behalf of the church. Church councils do not need this information for staff of paid contractors (eg plumbers or garden maintenance companies) as their employer must receive and record this proof.

Who would this apply to at our church?

Roles which would need to provide proof of vaccination status would likely include the worship leader, cleaner, organist/musician, Covid checkin marshals, those participating in recording/broadcasting live-streamed services, children's leader, food bank workers and anyone involved with building maintenance or gardening.

Does this requirement apply to Ministers?

While there appear to be some exemptions under certain circumstances from the requirement to gather this information from Ministers and other faith leaders, it is strongly recommended that Vaccination Status information be requested from Ministers to ensure compliance in **all** situations.

Uniting Church in Australia

What if the proof is not provided?

An employer of a worker must not permit a worker who is unvaccinated to work for that employer outside the worker's ordinary place of residence, unless that person is medically exempted from vaccination requirements. If an employer does not hold vaccination information about a worker, the employer must treat the worker as if the worker is unvaccinated.

What information is required?

The Vaccination register must record the name of all staff and volunteers working onsite.

Beside each, it must show

- For fully vaccinated (2 doses)

 the date of the 2nd dose, the vaccination document number and the type of vaccine received
- ► For partially vaccinated (1 dose)- the date of the 1st dose, the date due for 2nd dose and the type of vaccine received
- For excepted (medically exempt) the type of exemption, the name of the medical practitioner who issued the certificate and the date.

How should the information be recorded?

The Synod of Victoria and Tasmania has produced a simple form to assist all Church Councils to meet the above obligation. **This form can be found here**

Who will have access to this information?

Synod's Crisis Management Team is recommending that no more than two people at any location have access to that location's staff vaccination records. It may be required at some point that authorised staff from either the Synod or Presbytery be able to verify compliance. At any time, this information may be requested by an Authorised Health Official.

Will this replace Permitted Worker Permits?

As of Friday October 15, any authorised worker in Metropolitan Melbourne or any area of Regional Victoria currently under "stay-at-home" orders will be required to carry both a valid Permitted Worker Permit and evidence of their vaccination status in order to attend any workplace.

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SYNOD OF VICTORIA AND TASMANIA





By October 15 all workers who are on the Authorised Worker list must have received their first vaccine, or be booked to receive their 1st dose by Oct 22, to attend any workplace. They must also receive their second dose by November 26. This includes faith leaders, marriage celebrants and funerary services.

The following restrictions apply to all Regional Victorian Local Government Areas EXCLUDING those currently under stay at home orders. Any changes to restrictions which come into effect as of 11:59pm Thurs Oct 21 are in RED.

Stay at Home requirements have been lifted, but residents of Regional Victoria must not travel to metropolitan Melbourne or any regional area which is in lockdown other than for permitted reasons (eg permitted work, to visit an intimate partner, for care or compassionate reasons, to obtain goods/ services provided they are from the nearest facility to your home).

Travel to Metro Melb or other lockdown regions for a COVID vaccination is not permitted (even if you have a pre-existing booking). Businesses in Regional Victoria must conduct an ID check to ensure patrons are not from metro Melbourne or other lockdown regions.

- Masks must be carried at all times and must be worn at all times indoors and outdoors by Victorians aged 12 years or over unless at home, or when visiting an intimate partner's place of residence, or if an exemption applies. Face masks are recommended for primary school aged children indoors or outdoors unless at home or if an exemption applies. Face masks may only be removed to eat and to drink non-alcoholic beverages.
- Visitors to the home As of Oct 22: up to 10 people per day, including dependants, my visit at home.

- Public outdoor gatherings As of Oct 22: the limit increases from 10 to 15 people. This does not include back yards or other areas of a private residence.
- Religious gatherings and ceremonies
 As of Oct 22:
 - •If all attendees are fully vaccinated, up to 30 people can attend indoors, with a density quotient of one person per 4 sqm, or up to 100 people may attend outdoors with a density quotient of one person per 2 sqm.
 - If the vaccination status of all attendees is not known, there is no change to the prior cap of up to 20 people with a density quotient of one person per 4sqm.
 - COVID check-in marshals must ensure all attendees check-in and, if it is a service for the fully vaccinated, that all attendees over 12 have proof they are fully vaccinated or medically exempt. (see p6)
- Funerals As of Oct 22:
 - If all attendees are fully vaccinated, up to 30 people can attend indoors, with a density quotient of one person per 4 sqm, or up to 100 people may attend outdoors with a density quotient of one person per 2 sqm.
 - If the vaccination status of all attendees is not known, there is no change to the prior cap of 20 people plus those required to conduct the funeral, providing all persons in attendance are from Regional Victoria.
 - COVID check-in marshals must ensure all attendees check-in and, if it is a service for the fully vaccinated, that all attendees over 12 have proof they are fully vaccinated or medically exempt. (see p6)
- Weddings As of Oct 22:
 - If all attendees are fully vaccinated, up to 30 people can attend indoors, with a density quotient of one person per 4 sqm, or up to 100 people may attend outdoors with a density quotient of one person per 2 sqm.
 - If the vaccination status of all attendees is not known, there is no change to the prior cap of 10 people at a venue (indoors or outdoors) including the couple and two witnesses. The celebrant and one photographer are additional to the cap.

Continued P3



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Blind faith



Mark 10.46-52

On his journey south to Jerusalem, Jesus is leaving Jericho when he hears his name called by a blind beggar, Bartimaeus. While some try to keep the man quiet, Jesus responds to the plea of Bartimaeus and calls him over. When his sight is miraculously restored, he follows Jesus.

Now read Mark 10.46-52 see p.2 for text.

A note on the passage

Bartimaeus appears to have heard of Jesus, and to have known something of his ministry, so he calls out to Jesus for mercy. No wonder he throws aside his cloak and puts aside the trappings of a beggar to go forwards in hope. He asks for just one thing, but that will change his life in every way. What would you ask of Jesus?



Ask yourself: What do you see what is it? Can you think of a time when faith has helped you to see something differently?

in woodland, you will appreciate the special atmosphere of ancient

trees. They also provide natural

habitats and improve air quality.

The 'Queen's Green Canopy' is a

tree planting initiative to mark

her Platinum Jubilee in 2022.

Everyone in the UK is invited

yet see, by helping to create

new ancient forests. Take part

now! Either pop down to your

local Garden Centre or request a

free tree pack for your school or

community from the Woodland

Trust. woodlandtrust.org.uk.

to plant trees from this month

through to the end of 2022. Have

faith in the future that you can't



Play a word game by adding another word in front of or after 'BLIND' e.g. blind faith, window blind. Are some of the results positive and others negative in their meaning? How might this change your understanding of 'blind' when applied to 'faith'? It might be fun to use Scrabble™ letters to help you to make your words.

It may seem a little surprising that Jesus asks Bartimaeus what he wants. When King Solomon had asked God for wisdom, he was also given wealth and long life, even though those had change which would most affect our life will be different for each of us. In a quiet time each day, look back at a point in your life when you have had to make a decision, in faith. Make a note and, at the end of the week, look at those times as a map of your moments, read some chapters of the acted in faith and how they were changed.

When Bartimaeus shouted out, some ordered him to be quiet. Why did they try to silence him? Were they concerned for him or for Jesus? Were they worried that Jesus couldn't help him - or maybe that he could? When Jesus heard Bartimaeus, he called him over and listened to him. Despite the worldwide network of communication which we enjoy today, there are still some whose voice is not heard. Find out about the work of the Barnabas Fund which supports Christians who are persecuted for their faith and forbidden to speak out.



not been at the top of his list. The one faith journey. If you can't identify such Acts of the Apostles to see how others



The phrase 'blind faith' is often used as an insult, yet it may be something we all practice every day. Take a tour round your home, noticing what you take for granted. Press a light switch; turn on a tap. Look outside at anything which is growing, or dying back in its natural cycle. You have faith that things happen, without any input from yourself. What was Bartimaeus expecting when he asked Jesus to have mercy on him? What do you have the faith to ask for?

Children's Activities

Name

ROOTS Activity sheet

24-30 October 2021



Mark 10.46-52

A man asks Jesus for healing. Jesus says that his faith has made him well. The man is now able to see and chooses to follow Jesus.



'I was blind but now I see!



Add the expressions to Bartimaeus' face how he felt before and after his healing.





Can you find the eight pairs of glasses hidden within the image of Bartemaeus?





Write a short diary entry as if you were Bartimaeus. Include something on the following questions:

What did you hear?

What did you feel?

What did you do?

What changed?



esus and his disciples were leaving the city of Jericho, followed by a large crowd. A blind beggar called Bartimaeus was sitting by the side of the road. When he heard that Jesus of Nazareth was there, he cried out, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!'

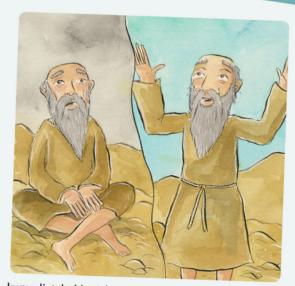
People scolded Bartimaeus and told him to keep quiet, thinking that Jesus was too important to be bothered by him; but he cried out all the louder, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!'

Jesus stood still and listened. 'Bring him over to me,' he said.

Some of the crowd called out to the blind man, 'Have courage! Get up! He is calling you.' Bartimaeus sprang up, throwing off his cloak, and came to Jesus. Jesus looked at him. 'What do you want me to do for

you?' he asked.

'My teacher, let me see again,' Bartimaeus replied. Jesus said to him, 'Go! Your faith has made you well.'



Immediately, his sight returned and Bartimaeus followed Jesus along the road.

Mark 10.46-52

Did you know?

- Son of David is a title used in connection with the return of David's kingdom, led by a new Messiah; when referring to Jesus, it suggests that he is the long-awaited Messiah.
- Bartimaeus is able to see in two ways he is physically healed, but we also see him following Jesus; he is able to see spiritually.

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