



Jesus Heals Two Blind Men

(based on Matthew 20:29–34)

Once, two blind men lived in a busy town called Jericho. Every day they would make their way out of the town and sit by the side of the road. They hoped that people would notice them and give them a few coins. Then they could buy food to eat.

It was a good place to sit, because the road was always busy. Many people traveled to and from Jericho. One day, the two men heard many footsteps walking down the road. They could tell that a huge crowd was coming.

The men listened carefully to the voices in the crowd. They started to hear people talking about Jesus. Suddenly they realized that Jesus was in the crowd.

“I’ve heard about Jesus!” cried the first man. “They say he can heal the blind. Maybe he can help us to see.”

“Let’s call out to him,” replied the other man.

So the two men began to call out, “Jesus, Son of David, look at us. Help us!”

The people in the crowd tried to stop the men. “Be quiet!” they scolded. “Don’t bother Jesus! Stop yelling!” But the two men called out over and over again.

Suddenly, they heard someone talking to them. It was Jesus. He stopped right in front of them and asked, “What do you want me to do for you?”

The two men could hardly believe their ears.

“Lord, we want to see,” they stammered.

Both men felt gentle fingertips touch their eyelids. Slowly they began to see some light. They blinked their eyes in astonishment. Colors started to swirl all around them. Then, all at once, they could see everything.

The men looked up at the blue sky above their heads, the beautiful sunshine, and the faces of the crowd. They couldn’t believe their eyes. Everything looked fantastic. Then they looked at Jesus and cried out their thanks. Some people in the crowd helped them to stand. The two men knew they would follow Jesus for the rest of their lives.



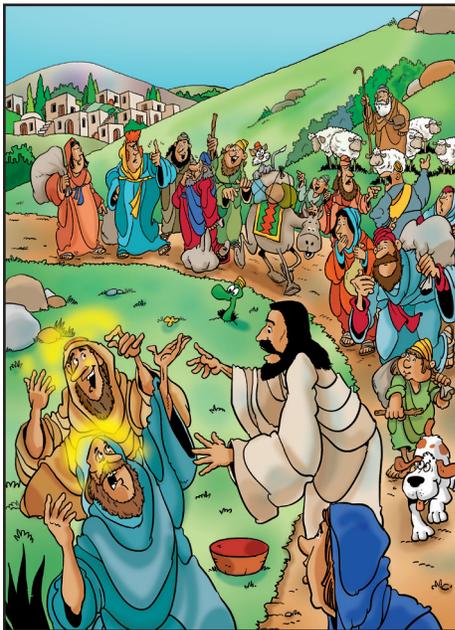
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Use one or more activities from each section to explore grace and gratitude with your children this week.

Recognizing God's Grace

- Read and enjoy the story with your family members—imagine and wonder.
- Imagine how you would feel if you were blind, and your only hope was to sit by the side of the road. While you are sitting, close your eyes. Try to follow what is going on in the room using your other senses.
- It is surprising how quick the crowd was to silence the two blind men asking for help. Conduct a role play in which someone is asking for help, and someone else is telling the person to be quiet. How does it feel to be silenced? Let another person play the role of Jesus, asking, “What do you want me to do for you?” How does it feel to be heard by someone?



Responding to God's Grace

- Blindness was common in Bible times, but it is not the only reason a person might need help or healing. Talk about situations in which people might need the help of others.
- In our lives, Jesus uses the hands of others to meet our needs. Ask family members to list ways others have met their needs.
- In our lives, Jesus uses our hands to meet the needs of others. Ask family members to name ways they can help others.

Celebrating in Gratitude

- Ask family members to tell about a time when they really needed help, and someone helped them.
- Have them tell about a time when they helped someone else.
- Name gifts and skills each person has. Let the family make a prayerful response. Here is an example:

*I can see.
Thank you, God!*

*I can hear.
Thank you, God!*

*I can _____.
Thank you, God!*

Amen.