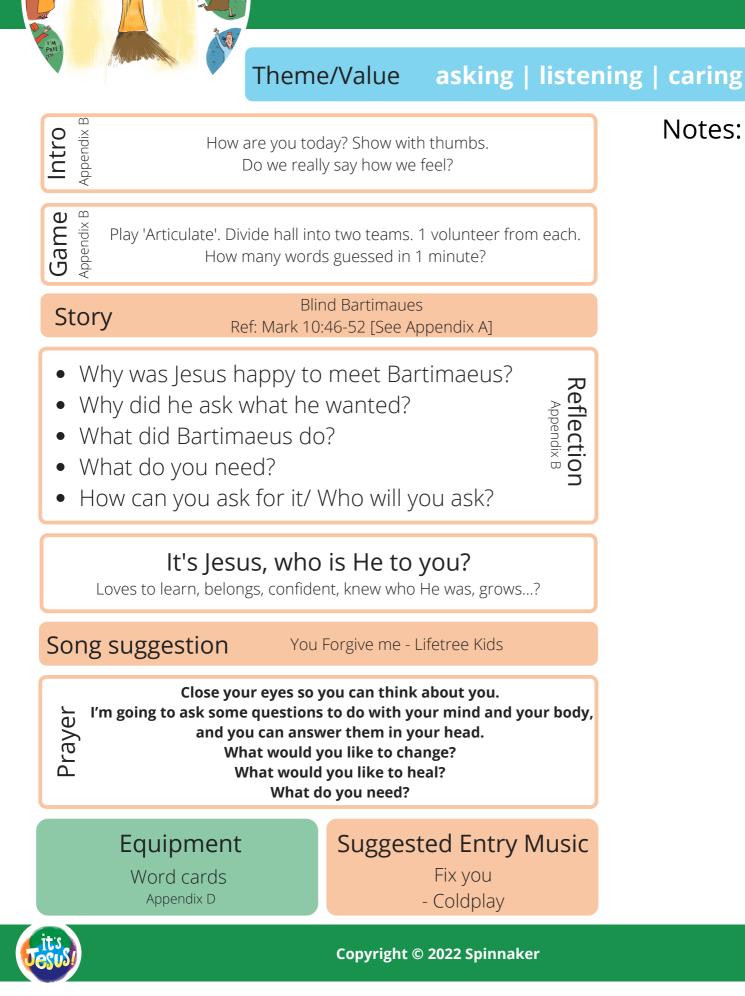
JESUS HEALS





Appendix A: Story

Everywhere Jesus went he healed people from all kinds of sickness and disease. Jesus cared for everyone he met. **SHOW THE IMAGE:** Jesus heals. People would queue up to be healed by Jesus: those who couldn't hear, those who couldn't see, those with troubles in their mind, those with troubles in their body. They were never disappointed as he changed their lives.

Healing - Bartimaeus (What is it you want?)

The gates in and out of Jericho were always busy; travellers passing west to Jerusalem, North to Galilee or even South on their way to Egypt. There was always somebody coming or going and everybody who passed through the gate would hear a voice ask the same question. "Can you spare some change please?" The voice belonged to Bartimaeus. "Can you spare some change please?" Bartimaeus would ask, over and over again each day.

Bartimaeus could not see. He did not know that the people who passed him wore colourful clothes or carried beautiful goods from the market, but when he heard their feet passing by, he would call to them and hold out his wooden bowl and sometimes he would hear 'chink' as a coin fell into the bottom. It was a busy day in Jericho, busier than normal. Crowds filled the streets, kicking up dust as they pushed between the market stalls that lined the road. "Fresh fruit, come and buy your fresh fruit!", "Look at my beautiful fabrics, come and look!" The market sellers shouted louder and louder over the bustling crowd, competing to sell their goods. To most people it would have sounded like normal, but Bartimaeus listened

to the sounds of Jericho all day every day and today, something was different.

"Did you hear what he did?" somebody whispered to their friend as they passed. "I can't believe he's here," a husband told his wife.

"Is it really him?" a child asked their grandmother as they paused at a nearby stall.

The crowds got bigger and bigger. Bartimaeus was jostled and bumped as people passed by.

"What's going on?" he called out, "Who is here? What is happening?"

"It's Jesus," a voice replied, "Jesus from Nazareth, the one who heals the sick, who teaches amazing things." "Jesus," Bartimaeus whispered the name under his breath, "Could he help me?"

"He's coming!" somebody called, "Look there, I can see him."

Bartimaeus took a deep breath and opened his mouth as wide as it would go. "JESUS! HELP ME!" he shouted, "JESUS! HELP ME!"

"Be quiet! Shhh!" the crowd around him murmured with embarrassment.

"JESUS! HELP ME!" Bartimaeus kept on shouting, louder and louder, until he couldn't hear the people muttering or the market sellers calling or the footsteps of the crowd. "JESUS! HELP ME!"

Suddenly Bartimaeus felt a hand on his shoulder and then being lifted to his feet. "It's Jesus, he's calling to you. Get up, get up!" The hands of the crowd pushed Bartimaeus, guiding him forward till suddenly the crowd ahead was gone and Bartimaeus was standing alone, waiting.

"What do you want me to do for you?" a gentle voice asked.

Suddenly everything was quiet, it was like the whole of Jericho was listening, waiting to hear what Bartimaeus would say. "Jesus. I want to see."

"Go," the gentle voice of Jesus said, "Your faith has healed you."

Bartimaeus squeezed his eyes tightly shut, his eyes which had never worked before, then slowly, he opened them again. Suddenly Bartimaeus' vision was filled with colours and shapes; the market stalls full of delicious things to eat and buy, the vibrant fabrics of the crowd all around him, the towering gates of Jericho where he had sat every day for so many years. But Bartimaeus wasn't looking at any of those things, he was looking straight into the eyes of the man who had healed him.

"I can see," Bartimaeus whispered to himself, as he joined the crowd of people and followed Jesus along the road, "I can see!"



Appendix B

Introduction

Hello. How are you all today? Feeling good? (Give me a thumbs up). Not sure? (Give me a hovering thumb). Not great? (Give me a thumbs down).

Most people when you ask them how they are, just say..."Oh I'm fine thanks" – even when they aren't.

Why do you think that is? Maybe they are embarrassed to say what's wrong. Perhaps they aren't quite sure how they feel, or they can't find the words to describe it. Maybe they just don't want to tell anyone? Although sometimes it's obvious that they need some help.

Sometimes finding the right words to explain what we want can be quite difficult at times. Even when the thing we are trying to explain or want is quite obvious!

GAME: Articulate!

Have cards with random words/objects written on them. Divide the assembly hall into two teams, each team has a volunteer who has 1 minute to describe as many words on the cards as possible. They cannot say the word on the card in their description! The team with the most cards described in 1 minute is the winner.

REFLECTION

Wow! What an amazing healing miracle!

Bartimaeus was a beggar. Everyone usually ignored him.

Q. Why do you think Jesus was happy to meet him? Jesus cares for everyone Surely it was obvious what Bartimaeus needed Jesus to do.

Q. Why do you think Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?".

- Jesus didn't want to make assumptions as to what he needed. He wanted to hear Bartimaeus say it out loud and he listened.

Q. How did Bartimaeus react when people around him told him to be quiet?- He shouted even louder! – Yes, he wasn't distracted or discouraged, he was determined to get to Jesus without delay.

Bartimaeus knew what he wanted. He knew Jesus had healed other people before him, and he believed that Jesus would listen to him and could help meet his needs. Jesus encouraged Bartimaeus to tell him what he needed.

I wonder what do you need today? What help and support are you in need of to help make a difference to your life.

Are you able to put it into words and tell someone you trust?

Are you determined to keep on going to get what you need, even when others around you are telling you to be quiet?

Notes:



JESUS HEALS







Television	Parachute	Swimming Pool
Perfume	Horse	Torch
Apple	Piano	Teddy Bear
Christmas Tree	Bicycle	Dentist



Pillow	Cornflakes	Uniform
Sweets	Birthday Cake	Football
Vacuum Cleaner	Teacher	Doctor
Shoes	Bible	Tennis Racket