

## The Story of Bartimaeus

Theme - Healing

Actors/props

- a. Narrator – headband that says “narrator” (need a total of 6)
- b. Bartimaeus – blind fold (need total of 6)
- c. Bartimaeus’ Voice – headband that says “voice” (need a total of 6)
- d. Jesus – face (need total of 6)
- e. Apostles (3) – beards (need total of 18)
- f. Crowd – no props

Set up: *Jesus and the Apostles are walking along the road. The crowd is following. They are walking toward Bartimaeus lying on the ground.*

### SCRIPT

Narrator: “The story of Bartimaeus is a story of Healing. Let’s begin the story now. Jesus and his apostles were walking to Jerusalem. As they approached Jericho, a large crowd was following Jesus.”

Bartimaeus’ Voice: “What is happening?”

Crowd: “Jesus of Nazareth is passing by.”

Bartimaeus’ Voice: “Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!”

Crowd: “Shhhh. Be quiet.”

Bartimaeus’ Voice: “Lord, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

Jesus: “Have that man come to me.”

Bartimaeus’ Voice: “Jesus, I am here.”

Jesus: “What do you want me to do for you?”

Bartimaeus’ Voice: “Master, I want to see.”

Jesus: “Go your way. Your faith has healed you.”

Bartimaeus should take off his blindfold and say “I can see!”

**Bartimaeus questions to discuss:**

Q: Why do you think Jesus healed Bartimaeus?

A: Answers may vary. Bartimaeus believed by faith that Jesus could heal him. Jesus loved Bartimaeus.

Q: How do you think Bartimaeus felt after he was healed?

A: Answers may vary. Bartimaeus was amazed, very happy, excited, wanted to tell everyone he was healed.

Q: In what ways do we need healing?

A: Sometimes physical healing – when we get hurt or are sick. We need spiritual healing when we sin. Emotional healing when our feelings are hurt.

Q: How do we receive spiritual healing when we sin?

A: We go to confession/reconciliation. We ask God to forgive our sins and he does, just like he did for Bartimaeus.

Q: If time allows, ask the students if they remember how to do confession (refer to the “My Guide to Confession”).

A: Think of their sins before, walk in, greet the priest, make the sign of the cross, state your sins, talk with the priest, remember the penance given to you, pray an act of contrition, say thank you, leave the confessional to do your penance.

## The Story of Zaccaeus

Theme – Hospitality

Actors/props

- a. Narrator – headband that says “narrator” (need a total of 6)
- b. Zaccaeus – bag of coins (need total of 6)
- c. Tree (need total of 6)
- d. House (need total of 6)
- e. Jesus – face (need total of 6)
- f. Apostles (3) – beards (need total of 18)
- g. Crowd – no props

Set up: *Jesus and the Apostles are walking along the road. The crowd is following. They are walking toward Zaccaeus and the Tree. The House is off in the distance.*

### SCRIPT

Narrator: “The story of Zaccaeus is a story of Hospitality. Let’s begin the story now. Jesus and his 12 apostles were walking to Jerusalem. As they walked through Jericho, a large crowd was following Jesus. There was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector. He was very rich.”

Zaccaeus: “I want to see Jesus, but I am too short. I cannot see over the crowd.” (*Zaccaeus looks around and sees a tree.*) “I will climb this sycamore tree so I can see!” (*Zaccaeus stands by the tree.*)

Jesus: (*Jesus walks to the tree and says to Zaccaeus.*) “Zaccaeus, hurry and come down. I must stay at your house today!”

Zaccaeus: (*Zaccaeus climbs down from the tree.*) “That is awesome! I would love to have you come to my house! Let’s go! I will feed you and make you feel comfortable. You can rest at my house.”

Crowd: (grumbling) “Jesus has gone to be the guest of a man that is a sinner! Why would he do that? He should have come to my house!”

*Jesus, apostles, and Zaccaeus walks to the house.*

Zaccaeus: “Look, Lord. I am giving half my property to the poor. And if I have cheated anyone, I will repay him four times as much.””

Jesus: “Today salvation has come to this house, because this man also is a son of Abraham. The Son of Man has come to seek and to save everyone who is lost.”

**Zaccaeus questions to discuss:**

Q: Why do you think Jesus went to Zaccaeus' house?

A: Answers may vary. Because Jesus knew Zaccaeus' heart. He knew Zaccaeus was a good man.

Q: How do you think Zaccaeus felt when Jesus wanted to go to his house?

A: Answers may vary. Zaccaeus was very happy, excited, surprised.

Q: What does it mean to be hospitable?

A: friendly and welcoming to strangers and guests

Q: How was Zaccaeus hospitable?

A: He welcomed Jesus into his home. He feed him, gave him drink, let him rest.

Q: How was Jesus hospitable?

A: He was kind to Zaccaeus when other people were not. Jesus didn't judge Zaccaeus like the crowd did. The crowd saw Zaccaeus as a bad person. Jesus did not.

Q: How can you be hospitable?

A: Answers may vary. You can share with others, you can talk to others even those who aren't your friends, sit with people who have no one to sit with at lunch or play with them at recess, do kind things for others, etc.

## The Story of Lazarus

Theme – Hope

Actors/props

- a. Narrator – headband that says “narrator” (need a total of 6)
- b. Lazarus – crepe paper (need total of 16)
- c. Mary – face (need a total of 6)
- d. Martha – face (need a total of 6)
- e. Jesus – face (need a total of 6)
- f. Tomb – (need a total of 6)
- g. Disciples (3) – beards (need a total of 18)
- h. Crowd – no props

Set up: *Assign parts. Wrap Lazarus up in crepe paper. Lazarus stands behind the tomb. Everyone else is a little distance away.*

### SCRIPT

Narrator: “The story of Lazarus is a story of Hope. Let’s begin the story now. Jesus often spent time in Bethany with Mary, Martha and their brother Lazarus. They were good friends with Jesus. One day Lazarus became very ill.”

Mary: *(Mary speaks to Martha.)* “We need to send a message to Jesus. We need to tell him Lazarus is very sick.”

Disciples: *(Speak to Jesus.)* “Mary and Martha have sent you a message. Lord, your dear friend is sick.”

Jesus: “This sickness will not end in death. God will use it to show his glory through his Son.”

Narrator: “Even though Jesus loved Mary, Martha, and Lazarus, he stayed where he was for two more days.

Jesus: *(speaking to his disciples)* “Let’s go to Bethany in Judea and visit Lazarus. There are twelve hours in the day. If you walk during the day, you will not stumble, because you walk in the daylight. The people walking in the dark stumble, because they do not have light to see. Lazarus has fallen asleep. I am going to awaken him.”

Disciples: “If Lazarus is sleeping, he will get better.”

Narrator: “When Jesus arrived in Bathany, they told him that Lazarus had already been in the tomb for 4 days.”

Martha: “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. Even now, I know that God will do whatever you ask him.”

Jesus: “Your brother will rise again.”

Mary: “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died!”

Jesus: “Where have you laid him?”

Mary & Martha: “Come and see.”

*(Everyone walks to the tomb. Jesus cries.)*

Crowd: “See how much Jesus loved Lazarus!”

Jesus: “Lazarus, come out!” *(Lazarus walks away from the tomb.)*

Jesus: "Unwrap him. Let him go."

(crowd helps to unwrap Lazarus.)

**Lazarus questions to discuss:**

Q: Why do you think Jesus waited to go to see Lazarus?

A: To show God's glory.

Q: How do you think Mary and Martha felt when Jesus did not show up?

A: Answers may vary. Disappointed, worried, scared, sad, hopeful, angry

Q: How is this story about Hope?

A: Answers may vary. Jesus helps us even when we don't believe or we doubt him. Jesus can do miracles. Jesus helps us on his time, not our time. Jesus cares about us.

Q: How can you give hope to others?

A: Answers may vary. You can help others, be kind to others, smile at others, tell others about Jesus, pray for others, etc.