

5-Day Devotional: Hearing, Responding, Following

From the sermon “WHEN YOU HEAR HIM PASSING BY: MARK 10:46-52”

Pastor Tom Rozier 3/1/2026

Day 1: Faith Begins When You Hear

Reading: Mark 10:46-47; Romans 10:17

Devotional: Bartimaeus couldn't see Jesus, but he heard about Him—and that changed everything. Faith doesn't begin with perfect understanding or clear vision; it starts in your ears before it shows up in your eyes. What are you hearing today about Jesus? Are you listening to the noise of the crowd, the doubts in your mind, or the truth of God's Word? Romans reminds us that faith comes from hearing the message about Christ. Today, quiet the distractions and listen for His voice. Open Scripture and let truth speak louder than fear. What you hear will shape how you respond. Are you truly listening?

Day 2: When Faith Gets Loud

Reading: Mark 10:48; Luke 9:23

Devotional: The crowd told Bartimaeus to be quiet, to stay in his place, to not bother Jesus. But he cried out louder. Sometimes the world—even well-meaning people—will try to silence your faith. They'll say don't be too serious, don't be a Jesus freak, don't take it that far. But Bartimaeus wanted mercy more than approval. True faith isn't polite or passive; it's desperate and bold. It refuses to let shame, fear, or social pressure keep it seated. What is God calling you to cry out for today? Who or what is telling you to stay quiet? Your faith may need to get louder than the voices trying to silence it.

Day 3: Throwing Off Your Cloak

Reading: Mark 10:50; 2 Corinthians 5:17

Devotional: Bartimaeus threw off his cloak—his identity, security, and livelihood—and ran to Jesus. That coat represented everything he was: a beggar, an outcast, someone defined by lack. But when Jesus called, he left it behind without hesitation. What is your cloak? What identity, sin, comfort, or control are you clinging to that keeps you from fully following Jesus? You cannot carry your cross while holding onto your past. The old must be laid aside for the new to come. Surrender isn't loss; it's liberation. Today, identify what you're holding onto and ask God for courage to throw it off and run toward Him.

Day 4: What Do You Want Me to Do?

Reading: Mark 10:51-52; Philippians 3:8

Devotional: Jesus asked Bartimaeus a question He already knew the answer to: "What do you want Me to do for you?" He wasn't confused; He wanted Bartimaeus to be specific, honest, and direct. God invites the same from us. Too often we pray vague prayers or stay silent about our deepest needs. Bartimaeus didn't just want relief; he wanted to see. He wanted Jesus. Real faith doesn't just ask for help in crisis and then walk away. It seeks relationship, transformation, and discipleship. What do you truly want from Jesus? Are you asking for temporary fixes or lasting change? Be bold. Be specific. He's listening.

Day 5: Following Jesus Down the Road

Reading: Mark 10:52; Matthew 16:24

Devotional: Jesus told Bartimaeus to go, but he didn't leave—he followed Jesus down the road toward Jerusalem, toward suffering, toward the cross. He didn't just want the miracle; he wanted the Master. This is the progression of true faith: from recognizing Jesus as Savior to surrendering as His disciple. Salvation isn't just a moment; it's a direction. Are you following Jesus or just collecting blessings from Him? The road He walks isn't always easy, but it leads to life. Today, recommit to following—not just believing, not just receiving, but walking daily in His footsteps. Deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow Him.