

Find Your People, Love Your Neighbor—1
Take the Next Step – Pastor Earl McClellan

Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (which means “son of Timaeus”), was sitting by the roadside begging. ⁴⁷When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁸Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.” ... Mark 10:46-49 NIV

When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout ... Mark 10:47 NIV

Take a step forward.

... “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Mark 10:47 NIV

Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet ... Mark 10:48 NIV

When you take a step forward, you have to expect that there will be some opposition.

... he shouted all the more ... Mark 10:48 NIV

Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.” ... Mark 10:49 NIV

... “Cheer up! On your feet! ...” Mark 10:49 NIV

Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus. Mark 10:50 NIV

Take a step forward into who God has called you to be.

“What do you want ...?” Jesus asked him. The blind man said, “... I want to see.” Mark 10:51 NIV

You’ll find what you’re looking for by connecting with the body of Christ.

... [Jesus] is the head of the body, the church ... Colossians 1:18 NIV

We don’t just consume church; we are the Church.

TALK IT OVER

Read **Mark 10:46-51**. What do you learn about Jesus through this interaction with Bartimaeus? How do you think this interaction built Bartimaeus’ faith?

When you try to take a step forward, you can expect that there will be some opposition. Talk about a time when you took a step toward God and faced opposition. How did that experience impact your faith?

God is calling each of us to take a step forward into who He’s designed us to be. Share how God is calling you with your group. Then spend time praying together.

Start the *Wisdom for Friendships* Bible Plan using Plans With Friends: www.go2.lc/friendships