



Sermon Series: Mark: Living Everyday With Jesus

Sermon Title: You Are Heard

Date: 3/22/2026

Mark 10:46–52

Big Idea: The Lord is never too busy for you or your requests.

The Road near Jericho

Jesus is traveling toward Jerusalem for the final time - moving purposely toward the cross and the moment where he will become the sacrificial lamb to take away the sin of the world. He has just passed through Perea and now reaches Jericho, a bustling city about 15 miles east of Jerusalem. Thousands surround him, following along, witnessing his miracles and hearing his teachings.

Amid all of that, a man who cannot see a thing sits beside that same dusty road. Bartimaeus. Mark tells us he is the son of Timaeus - and Timaeus means highly prized, a little ironic since his life would seem very far from that. He is blind, poor, and dependent on the people around him.

According to **Leviticus 25:35-38**, Israel was commanded to care for the poor. But instead people were ignored, pushed away, or silenced. Bartimaeus's world was filled with darkness - both literal and social. He will meet you wherever you are.

Listen to Bartimaeus

Even though Bartimaeus could not physically see Jesus, he knows of Jesus. With a heart of persistence he cries out: Son of David, have mercy on me - a very general request. But by calling him Son of David, Bartimaeus is using a title reserved only for the Messiah. A blind beggar was recognizing Jesus before many of the religious leaders could. Then a sad human response: people shouting over him, telling him to be silent. The very words the enemy whispers to our hearts.

But Bartimaeus is persistent and cries out again: **Son of David, have mercy on me! Mark 10:47.**

Have you ever been there? You pray for healing, restoration, salvation for a loved one - and the enemy tells you to stop. Passing time makes it feel like God isn't listening. Yet the Lord is never too busy for you or your

requests. Even if you can't see him fully, he sees you and your true inner needs. And Jesus stopped. Let those three words sink in. On the greatest mission in human history, Jesus stops for one forgotten man. **Psalm 34:17** says the righteous cry out and the Lord hears them. His presence in the middle of our trouble is what gives us peace even before the deliverance comes.

Take a Leap of Faith

At the call of Jesus, Bartimaeus does not move slowly or cautiously - he throws off his cloak and springs to his feet. That cloak was likely his only protection, his collector for alms, and a symbol of his identity as a beggar. His shade, his shelter, his collection point for charity - yet he leaves it behind without hesitation.

Bartimaeus shows us what faith looks like: he does not cling to his old identity. He throws off the one possession we know he has to respond to Jesus. Following Jesus often requires leaving behind the garment of our old, broken, or sinful life, trusting that he will provide what is needed. When Jesus calls you, run to him. Don't wait to get your life in order first. Don't hold onto your old life thinking you might need it later. Faith says: Jesus is all I now need.

Share the Specifics

Jesus then takes Bartimaeus from the generality of have mercy on me to a pointed question: **What do you want me to do for you? Mark 10:51.** Jesus invites specificity. Not simply have mercy on me, or Lord bless me, or Lord help me - he invites us to name what we desire because it brings us to a place of deeper trust. Bartimaeus becomes very specific: Rabbi, let me recover my sight. That is faith in action - believing in the miraculous nature of Jesus. Jesus responds: **Go your way; your faith has made you well. Mark 10:52.** Bartimaeus received his sight and his faith in Jesus ushered in salvation as well. He began the day blind and begging beside the road and ended it seeing and walking with Jesus. When we come to him in humble faith we see what we were blind to all along - his love and his willingness to stop for even one sinner like us. As John wrote in **1 John 3:1**, see how very much our Father loves us, for he calls us his children.

Truths you can carry into your week:

1. The Lord hears you and cares. **Romans 5:8**
2. Don't let the crowd silence you or cause you to believe lies about God.
3. Respond quickly when Jesus calls. **Hebrews 3:15**
4. Be specific in your request.
5. Give God praise!

Discussion Questions:

1. Have you ever felt like God was too busy or that your needs were too small to bring to him? What did that feel like, and what helped you overcome it?
2. Bartimaeus cried out even when the crowd tried to silence him. What “crowds” - people, circumstances, or inner doubts - have tried to silence your prayers? How did you respond?
3. Bartimaeus threw off his cloak before running to Jesus - leaving behind the one thing that defined his old life. Is there something you’ve been holding onto that God might be calling you to leave behind?
4. Jesus asked, “What do you want me to do for you?” If he asked you that question today, what would your specific answer be?
5. How does the story of Bartimaeus shape the way you think about prayer - both in how boldly you pray and how specifically you ask?