

Here are some activities you could do together as a family. Begin with the story and then do as many or as few as you like, in any order.



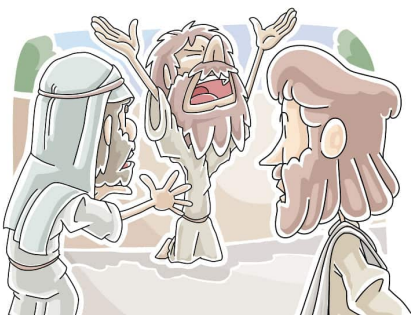
Bible Passage

Today we will be exploring together, Jesus' healing of a blind man named Bartimaeus.

You can find it in your Bible in:

Mark 10:46-52

Read the story together – choose a Bible translation or children's story version which best suits your family.



A prayer to say together

Dear God,

Thank you for the story of the healing of Bartimaeus.

Thank you for all of our senses and the way they work together to help us do the things we want and need to do.

Most of all, thank you for hearing us when we call on you whether it is loudly, quietly, or just in our hearts without saying any words out loud.

Help us to remember that you always hear us and that there isn't anything that we cannot talk to you about--because nothing we can do or say will make you love us any less.

Amen.

Discussion

Questions for adults to ask children

Why was the blind man, Bartimaeus, shouting?

What did people tell him to do when he began to call to Jesus?

How did Jesus treat Bartimaeus (what did he do?)?

When Bartimaeus heard that Jesus was passing by, he began to shout to get Jesus' attention. But the people around him told him to be quiet. Jesus heard Bartimaeus call and paid attention to him. He healed Bartimaeus so he could see.

Questions for children to ask adults

If Jesus asked you, "what do you want me to do for you?" how would you answer him?

The Big Question (for everyone!)

Who has treated you the way Jesus treated Bartimaeus? (listening and paying attention to you when everyone else ignored you or told you to be quiet)

Family Activity 1

You will need:

- at least 3 different types of fresh fruit
- paper/fabric lunch sacks or small boxes, etc. that are opaque (one for each type of fruit)



- Place each piece of fruit in separate sacks/boxes.
- Try to identify the fruit in each container first by smelling and then by touching.
- Talk about what it would be like to be blind and have to identify some things only by smell or touch.
- Thank God for giving us all of our senses - especially the gift of sight - and for Jesus' healing of the blind man, Bartimaeus, in today's Bible story.



A verse to remember

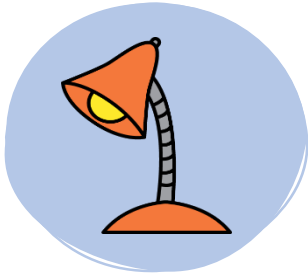
Psalm 96 v 3

Tell the nations of his glory; tell all peoples the miracles he does.

To learn this verse together, you could come up with some actions to help you remember it or decorate the verse on a piece of paper and put it up somewhere to remind you of it through the week.

Active Prayer

Jesus said that we should be a light for others in the world, helping those who are living without knowing God to become His friend.



How many different lights can you find in your house? Travel around the house and each time you find a light, turn it on and pray together for one friend or family member who does not know Jesus yet.

Make sure you turn them off afterwards to help look after the environment, and don't forget the light inside your fridge!



Family Activity 2



You will need: round cookie or round/oval cracker, cream cheese, chocolate chips/M&Ms, (optional-strawberry jam/jelly for a more Halloween-type treat)

Set out crackers/cookies, spreadable cream cheese, and chocolate chips.

Make an eyeball by placing a dollop of cream cheese on top of cookie/cracker and add a chocolate chip or M&M to the center.

For a "spookier" more Halloween-type treat, top the cookie/cracker, and/or cream cheese with a thin amount of strawberry jelly before adding the chocolate chip/M&M.



Family Activity 3

You will need: A blindfold/scarf

How important is sight to our ability to move? Try these activities to find out:

- Stand in an open area and balance on both feet for 30 seconds. Now, close both eyes and try to balance for 30 seconds. Compare the difficulty of both tasks.
- Next, stand on one foot without touching anything for support and balance for 15 seconds. Try the same thing with both eyes closed. Was it harder?

God created our senses to work together to help us do the things we need to do. The

- Finally, set up an obstacle course, blindfold someone, and guide them through it using only the sound of your voice. Talk about the difficulties Bartimaeus faced when he was blind.



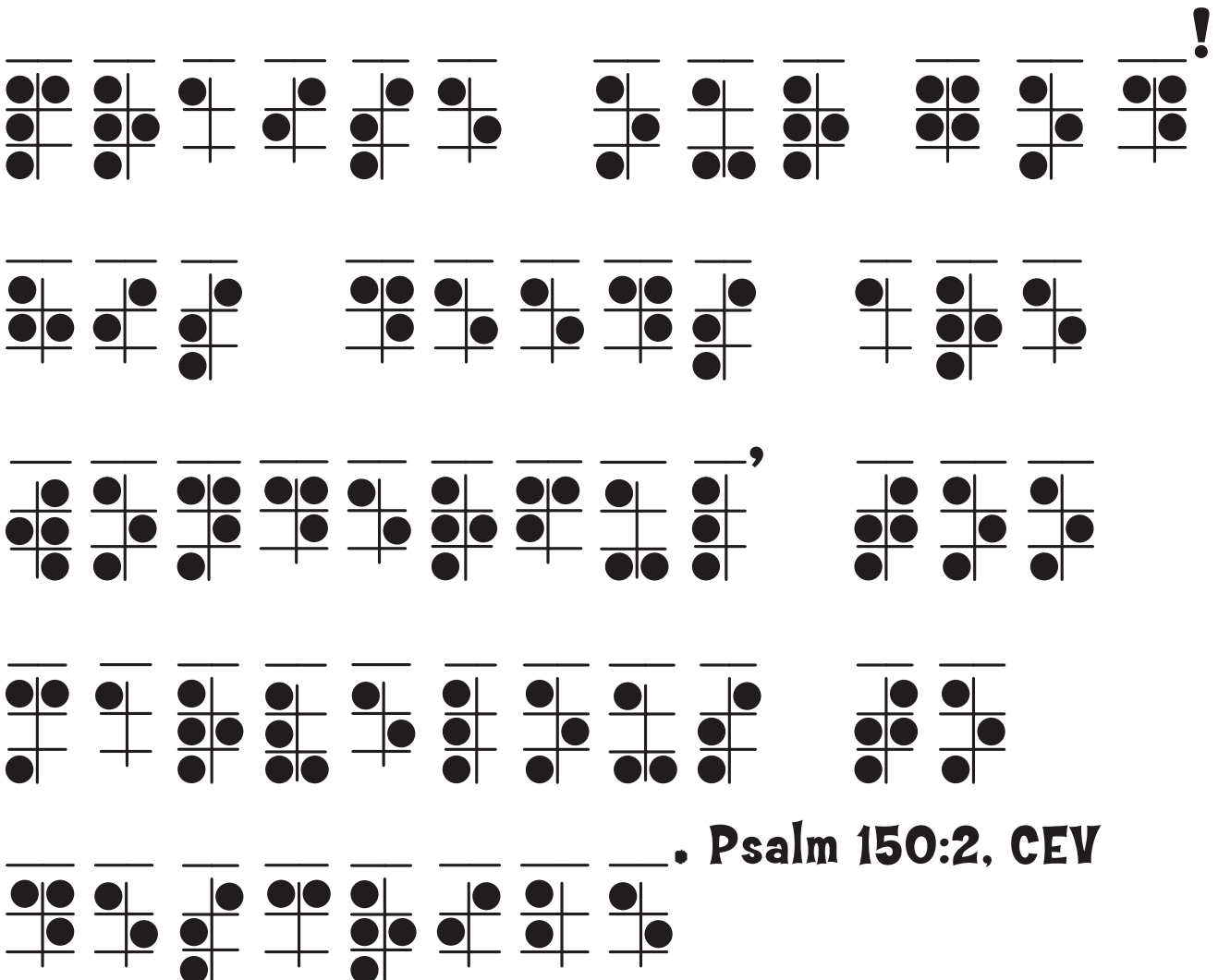
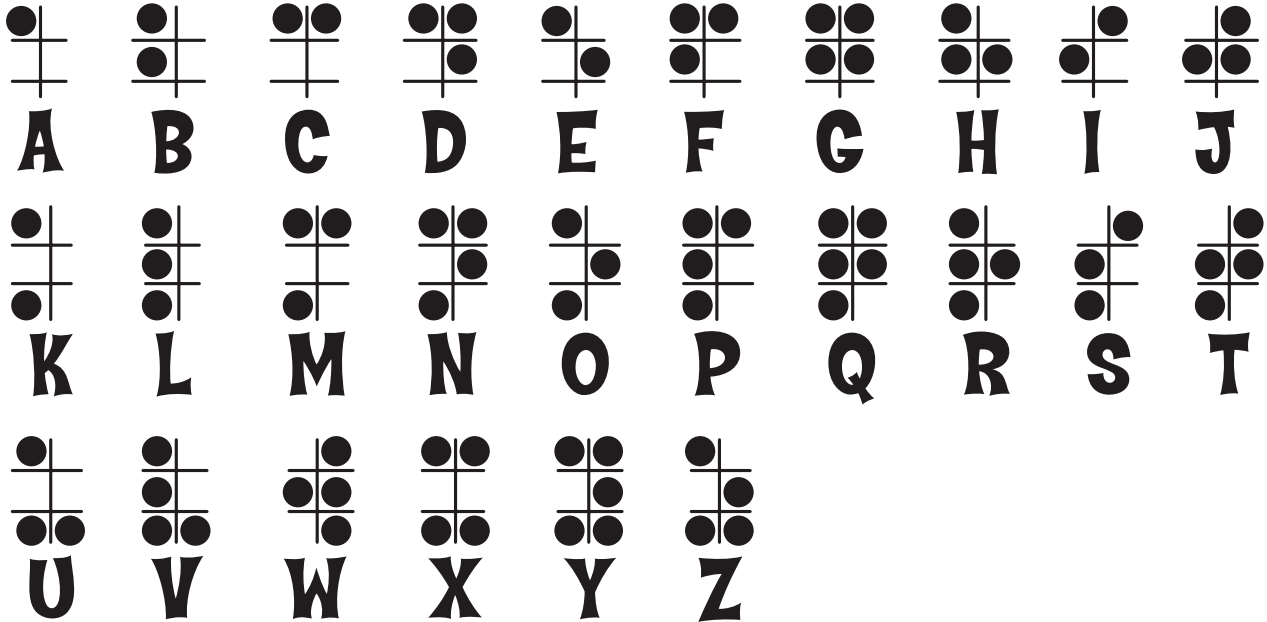
Coloring Page



Jesus heals Bartimaeus
Mark 10:46-52

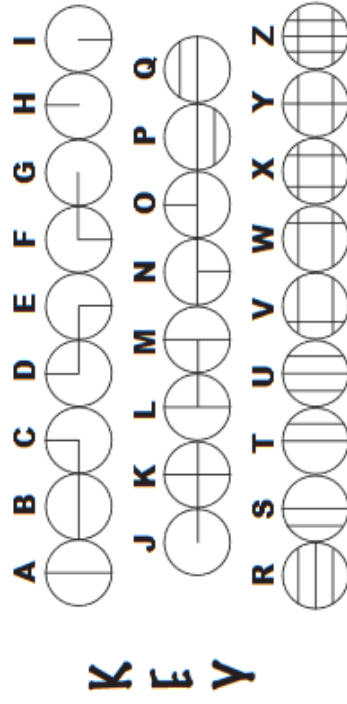
Braille Bible Verse

When you first look at something written in Braille, which is a system of touch reading and writing for blind persons in which raised dots that can be read with the fingers, all you may see or feel is a jumble of dots. However, like any code, Braille is based on a logical system. That's because each pattern of dots represents a letter of the alphabet. Use the Braille alphabet to find out the Bible verse written below it.

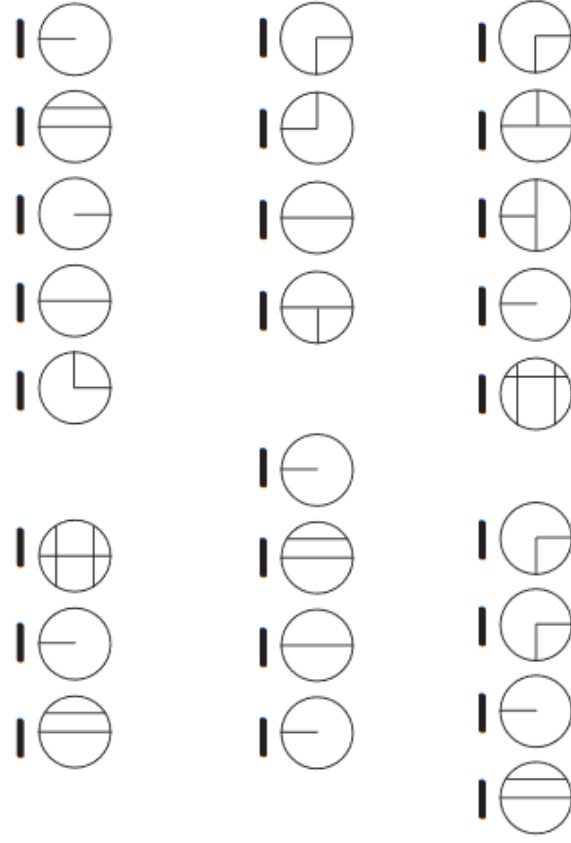


Bartimaeus' Healing

Learn about Bartimaeus' healing in Mark 10:46-52
Use the key to complete the phrase below.



"Go thy way;



Blind Bartimaeus Word Search

C I F J L E D I S C I P L E S
Z R S O A X A X C X U P K F B
K R S G L Z C I T Y Z H C L A
D A I Q I L R U Q I U E H G R
J B G W R F O O W U L A E X T
S B H X A E D W A I I L E Y I
B I T Y U C S I E D C E R N M
F A I T H U O Y L D S D T R A
L F E F S P C B Q Y N I O C E
P T D E E R V M E H I H D Q U
T T J K E E J V D G C S B E S
D P M M V P T W B I G S N R R
Y B L I N D O Y R H L I V T T
S H O U T R S E H T Y W N A I
B J J C C L J J U M P E D G E

Jericho	city	begging	cheer	faith
Jesus	blind	shout	jumped	healed
disciples	Bartimaeus	mercy	feet	sight
crowd	roadside	quiet	Rabbi	followed