

Blind Bartimaeus Craft

Thy faith hath made thee whole · Mark 10:46–52 · print page 2 for each child (and page 3 for the harder level)

What it looks like finished



Easy and medium

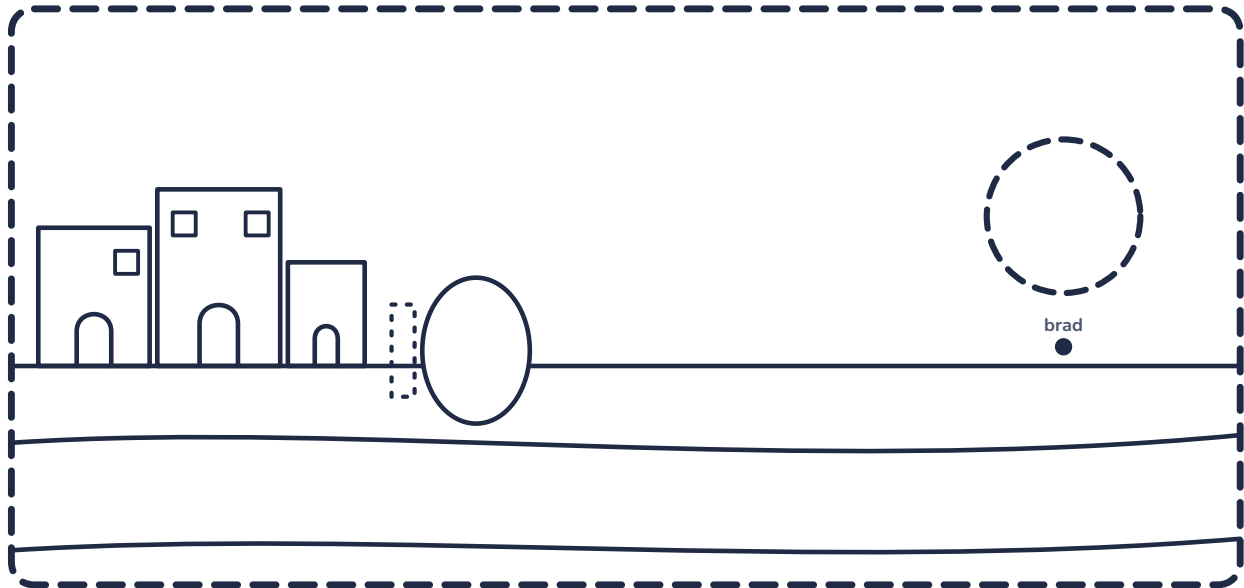


Harder

Both levels are a roadside card: a light blue sky, the yellow houses of Jericho with brown doors, green grass and a brown road. Bartimaeus is drawn in the oval by the road, where he "sat by the highway side" (Mark 10:46). A wheel behind the card turns: its dark blue half shows in the round window first, because his eyes could not see, and then the yellow sun, because "immediately he received his sight" (10:52). Medium (left): the card and the wheel. Harder (right): the same, with a red garment that flips open beside Bartimaeus, because "he, casting away his garment, rose" (10:50).

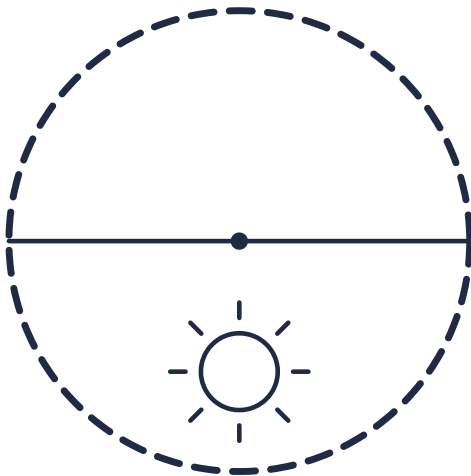
Name: _____

✂ Cut on the dashed lines

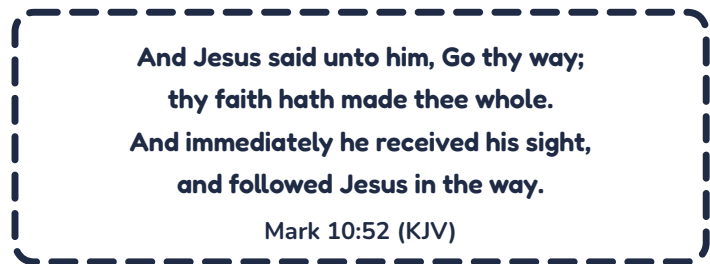


card: sky light blue, houses yellow, doors brown, grass green, road brown. Cut out the round window.

Draw Bartimaeus in the oval by the road.



wheel: top half dark blue;
bottom half light blue, sun yellow



verse strip: glue it on the back of the card, on the left

Color each piece the way its label says. Cut out the card (and the round window), the wheel and the verse strip. You also need 1 brad.

Name: _____

✂ Harder level

Garment (harder level)

Cut on the dashed lines. Fold on the dotted line.



garment: color it red on both sides

How to add the garment

1. Make the card with the wheel from page 2 first.
2. Color the garment red on the front and on the back. Cut it out on the dashed lines.
3. Fold the glue tab on the dotted line.
4. Put glue on the back of the tab only. Press the tab on the dotted box just left of Bartimaeus's oval, so the garment swings over the oval and covers it.
5. Tell it: Bartimaeus sits by the road in his garment, and the window is dark. The people say, "Be of good comfort, rise; he calleth thee" (Mark 10:49). Flip the garment open to the left: "he, casting away his garment, rose, and came to Jesus" (10:50). Then turn the wheel until the sun shows: "immediately he received his sight" (10:52).

For the teacher

See it finished: a photo of the finished craft is at vbshq.com/crafts/blind-bartimaeus-craft

Time: 15 to 30 minutes, depending on the level · **Ages:** 3 to 11, in three levels · **Cost:** under 50 cents a child for the easy and medium levels

You need: page 2 printed once per child (cardstock is sturdiest), light blue, dark blue, yellow, brown and green crayons or markers, crayons for drawing Bartimaeus, 1 brass paper fastener (brad) for each child, scissors, glue sticks and a sharp pencil. For the harder level, also page 3 printed once per child and a red crayon.

Before class: for preschoolers, cut out the card (and its round window), the wheel and the verse strip. At every level a grown-up pokes the brad holes.

Three ways to make it

- **Easy (preschool, ages 3–5), about 15 minutes, no scissors:** before class, cut out each child's pieces. Kids color and draw Bartimaeus. You poke the holes, push in the brad and help glue the verse strip on the back. Then they turn the wheel.
- **Medium (grades K–2), about 20 minutes:** follow the steps below. Kids color, draw and cut out the pieces themselves; a grown-up pokes the holes. This is the craft in the first photo.
- **Harder (grades 3–5), about 30 minutes:** make the card like the medium level. Then add the red garment from page 3, which covers Bartimaeus and flips open: "casting away his garment, rose" (Mark 10:50). This is the craft in the second photo.

Steps (medium level)

1. **Color the card:** the sky light blue, the houses of Jericho yellow with brown doors, the grass green and the road brown. Leave the oval by the road white.
2. **Draw:** in the oval by the road, draw Bartimaeus sitting by the highway side (Mark 10:46).
3. **Color the wheel:** the top half dark blue. Color the bottom half light blue and the sun yellow.
4. **Cut:** cut out the card, the wheel and the verse strip on the dashed lines. Cut out the round window in the sky too.
5. **Poke the holes:** a grown-up pokes a hole with a sharp pencil through the dot on the card and the dot in the middle of the wheel.
6. **Put in the brad:** put the wheel behind the card with the dark blue half at the top, so the round window shows dark blue. Push the brad through the card and the wheel from the front, and open its legs flat on the back. The edge of the wheel sticks out on the right side.
7. **Verse:** glue the verse strip on the back, on the left side, away from the wheel. Read it together.
8. **Tell it:** the window is dark, because Bartimaeus's eyes could not see. Say his words: "Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me" (Mark 10:47). Then turn the wheel by its edge until the sun fills the window: "immediately he received his sight" (10:52).

Questions to ask while kids work

- Point to the oval by the road. Who sat there, and what was he doing? (*Blind Bartimaeus, the son of Timaeus, sat by the highway side begging, Mark 10:46*)
- Point to the houses. Which city was Jesus going out of? (*Jericho, 10:46*)
- What did Bartimaeus cry out? (*"Jesus, thou Son of David, have mercy on me," 10:47*)
- Many told him to be quiet. What did he do? (*He "cried the more a great deal," much louder, 10:48*)
- What did Jesus do then? (*He stood still and commanded him to be called, 10:49*)
- What did Bartimaeus ask Jesus for? (*"Lord, that I might receive my sight," 10:51*)
- Turn the wheel. What did Jesus say, and what happened? (*"Go thy way; thy faith hath made thee whole." Immediately he received his sight, 10:52*)
- Where did Bartimaeus go then? (*He followed Jesus in the way, 10:52*)

Tips

- **Old Bible words explained:** **highway side** means the side of the road; **begging** means asking people for money or food to live on; **Son of David** means the King God promised from David's family (Matthew 1:1); **mercy** means kindness and help; **hold his peace** means be quiet; **cried the more a great deal** means called out much louder; **be of good comfort** means cheer up; **he calleth thee** means he is calling you; **garment** means his outer coat; **thy faith hath made thee whole** means your faith has made you well; **immediately** means right away; **in the way** means on the road.
- **Talk about blindness kindly:** the dark window is a simple picture of eyes that could not see. Being blind was not Bartimaeus's fault, and God loved him. Some people today cannot see, and God loves them just as much.
- **What the Bible says:** Mark does not say what the road, the houses or the garment looked like, or what color the garment was. The houses, the road, the wheel and the colors are the craft's simple picture of the story.
- **No one is drawn on the template, and never Jesus:** each child draws Bartimaeus in the oval by the road. Jesus "stood still" on the road (Mark 10:49); He is not drawn.
- **Preschool:** pre-cut everything, and poke the holes and push in the brads yourself after the kids color. Use glue sticks, not liquid glue. Let every child turn the wheel.
- **Teach the story first:** this craft goes with the free blind Bartimaeus lesson and word search at vbshq.com/bible-stories/blind-bartimaeus.