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WEEK 11 | The Life Well Lived

PRAYER

Our life-giving Father, each breath you've given us to live is intentionally to be breathed in worship of you. Help us to LIVE, for you alone are LIFE! Help us to see you in everything, your hand in the crafting of it all, your embrace amidst turmoil, and your heart in the lost. In Jesus' name, Amen.

WARM UP (OPTIONAL)

What is one thing that you have yet to experience that you would like to have happen? What do you imagine it will be like? How will it change you after you have experienced it?

NOTES

WORD

⁴⁶ 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. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!”

⁴⁸ Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, “Son of David, have mercy on me!” ⁴⁹ Jesus stopped and said, “Call him.” So they called to the blind man, “Cheer up! On your feet! He’s calling you.” ⁵⁰ Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.

⁵¹ “What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked him. The blind man said, “Rabbi, I want to see.” ⁵² “Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.” Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along the road.

[MARK 10:46-52](#)

² Now there is in Jerusalem by the Sheep Gate a pool, in Aramaic called Bethesda, which has five roofed colonnades. ³ In these lay a multitude of invalids—blind, lame, and paralyzed.

. . . ⁵ One man was there who had been an invalid for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there and knew that he had already been there a long time, he said to him, “Do you want to be healed?” ⁷ The sick man answered him, “Sir, I have no one to put me into the pool when the water is stirred up, and while I am going, another steps down before me.” ⁸ Jesus said to him, “Get up, take up your bed, and walk.” ⁹ And at once the man was healed, and he took up his bed and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath.

¹⁰ So the Jews said to the man who had been healed, “It is the Sabbath, and it is not lawful for you to take up your bed.”

[JOHN 5:2-10](#)

These two men, Bartimaeus and the unnamed man who had been sick in Bethesda, both had the opportunity to be healed by Jesus. Interestingly, Bartimaeus was not offered the healing by Jesus, and was on the roadside where people were leaving when he heard of Jesus passing by. The man

who was at the poolside in Bethesda (which aptly means “House of Mercy”), was in the vicinity and even had Jesus ask him if he wanted to be healed.

While Bartimaeus was rebuked by the crowd and wasn’t invited to be healed, he proclaimed that he wanted to see, so Jesus healed him. The other man, though, upon being asked by Jesus if he would like to be healed, gave all the excuses as to why he should be healed. Jesus, still in his sovereignty and authority, healed the man.

GUIDE QUESTIONS

(NUMBERED ACCORDING TO LEVEL OF DEPTH AND READINESS TO SHARE)

1. On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate your faith in God’s ability to do the miraculous? Why have you rated yourself this way?
2. If God was to ask you, “What do you want me to do for you?” (see Mark 10:51), how would you answer and why?
3. Do you see more of your level of faith in Bartimaeus or the man at Bethesda (or neither)? Why?
4. Do you make plans of the future, or are you more spontaneous? If you are a planner, have you entrusted God with your plans? If you are more spontaneous, what would you do if God was to move you to make sudden decisions that require more resources and effort that you had not planned ahead to have?
5. Are you desperate to see God in everything you do? Why or why not?
6. How is your relationship with God? If you do not have one, would you like to have one? Ask your Life Group leader to lead you in prayer to receive Christ. You can pray this prayer with them:

Dear Lord Jesus, I know that I am a sinner, and I ask for your forgiveness. I believe you died for my sins and you rose from the dead. I turn from my sins and invite you to come into my heart and life. I want to trust and follow you as my Lord and Saviour. In Jesus’ name, Amen.