

“A Year with Jesus”
Week 4, January 24th, Mark 10:46-52

Journal your responses and thoughts from this exercise and continue to bring them to God in prayer throughout the week.

//Spend time reflecting on this question.

Do you find Jesus to be approachable in prayer?

Journal your thoughts.

All of us have different experiences and levels of comfort with prayer. If you've been in the Church for any period of time you've been encouraged to pray, been told of its importance, and probably been given a number of "how to's" (we will be looking at the Lord's Prayer later in the year!). As we continue to engage with Jesus using these devotions throughout the year, it's important to keep in mind that prayer, in its most simple form, is the act of bringing ourselves before the God who welcomes us into his presence.

One of the great things we can express in prayer is what we most want and long for from God. This is not a selfish, "this is what I want you to do for me God?" Instead, it's an honest examination of what we are hoping for, what we see as our need that only he can meet, and what we are truly longing for.

//Read Mark 10:46-52

After your initial reading, get into a comfortable place, and imagine the entire story, this time as Bartimaeus, the person in the crowd and in need. Spend time in this process and use the thoughts below as a guide.

- How do you get Jesus' attention?
- How does it make you feel that Jesus comes to you, ignoring those that have asked you to be quiet?

Imagine that Jesus responds to you, that you have his complete attention, and that just as he asked Bartimaeus he now asks you...

“What do you want me to do for you?”

Spend time with this question and don't feel the need to rush into answers; let Jesus ask. Start to focus on what your responses are to Jesus and this question. Take your time in this process and express your heart's desire to God. Reflect on your responses and spend a moment in silence, listening to God.