



LEADER'S NOTES | TAKE HEART

QUESTION 1

The first question invites your group to discuss the story we focused on this weekend. We begin a new sermon series on our church's mission. Our mission is to love, live, and lead like Jesus. Question: Ask your group to identify how, in this story, we see Jesus loving, living, and leading. Some answers might include seeing the love of Christ in His willingness to stop and give the blind beggar full attention. We see Jesus living among the people, doing God's work. He doesn't live apart from those He serves; He lives with the people. And we see His leadership as He uses the crowd to bring the beggar to Him. He leads them to see that God's work is for everyone and that they are included.

QUESTION 2

The second question focuses on Bartimaeus's enthusiastic faith and how he boldly approaches Jesus. This question also emphasizes the importance of approaching God with confidence. If your group members are struggling to approach God with confidence and faith, you might remind them of their identity in Christ. As children of God, we are called to approach Him confidently.

QUESTION 3

The third question focuses on God's plan to involve us in His work and invites you to discuss times when God may have included you in His work. As a group leader, this is a great opportunity to talk about how God has called you to lead this group and the blessing the group has been to you. I would encourage you to use this opportunity to lift up your group. And of course, you could also mention some things that are at times difficult about the group if you choose to.

QUESTION 4

In the fourth and final question, we see the blind beggar, now healed by Jesus, following Him. The question asks your group members to discuss whether they are sitting by the road or actively following Jesus. I think this is a very important question. You may want to guide the discussion to passive versus active faith. Passive faith believes in Jesus but takes no initiative to draw near Him or obey Him. Active faith engages in spiritual disciplines and looks for ways to serve and obey God.