

Mark 10:46-52

## Discuss

**No matter who you are, you can step out of your past and into your potential.**

Bartimaeus was blind and begging on the side of the road. He was in a less-than-ideal situation.

- What less-than-ideal situations have you been in?

When we try to break out of our past, some people tell us that's just who we are or that's what we did.

- What's one way the groups of people in your life — friends, family, coworkers — have tried to define who you are or what your life should be about?
- Have you done things to be accepted by a certain crowd?

Bartimaeus' cloak was probably everything he had; it's what he clung to. Maybe for some of us, we're clinging to our past because it's all we have. It's our excuse for how we are.

- What excuses have you heard people use to explain the way they are?
- What is something you've had to let go of so you could take more next steps with Jesus?

Bartimaeus didn't want to live how he was living. He didn't let his blindness keep him from seeing Jesus and calling out to Him.

- What's one thing you have been praying about or asking Jesus for?

Though Bartimaeus had been blind, he could see after one encounter with Jesus.

- Has your perspective about anything changed after meeting or learning more about Jesus?

**In Christ, we can step out of the prison of our past into the potential of our future.**

## Next Steps

- What's one thing you can do this week to focus less on your past and more on the future Jesus has for you?
- Instead of listening to the voices that keep you in your past, listen to Jesus. Visit [www.newspring.cc/bible](http://www.newspring.cc/bible) for help understanding the Bible and taking next steps.