

<p>Schools: Spring Term, Pub RMEP, 1990, P. 68, F6, used with kind permission</p>	<p>Talk: Jesus was walking by the pool of Bethesda. Disabled people often used to lie beside the pool, for they believed that it had healing powers and they might be cured if they could get into the water when it bubbled. Jesus saw a lame man lying there; he had been lame for thirty-eight years. Jesus asked the man if he wanted to be well and the man explained he could not walk and he had no one to help him into the water. Jesus did not offer to help him into the water, instead he said "Stand up, pick up your mat and walk." At once the man tried to get up and found he was cured.</p> <p>Comment: We do not know the first thing the lame man did, but we do know that later that day he met Jesus in the Temple, so perhaps one of the first things he did was to say thank you to God.</p> <p>Tick off the appropriate part of the job description.</p>	<p>Hymn: As appropriate</p>	<p>Sometimes we get cross with God because He doesn't do things we ask Him to do, but He knows better than us and gives us not necessarily what we ask for, but what we need.</p>
<p>Material from Margaret Cooling, Assemblies for Primary Schools: Spring Term, Pub RMEP, 1990, P. 66, F4, used with kind permission</p>	<p>You will need: A blindfold, some objects to feel.</p> <p>Introductory activity: Have on display Jesus job description.</p> <p>Tick off the appropriate part of the job description Talk a little about what it is like to be blind. Blindfold a child and ask him or her to handle the objects and guess what they are.</p> <p>Ask the children to think very carefully about what it is like to be blind. What would they most miss seeing?</p> <p>Talk: The blind man at Bethsaida When Jesus was going through Bethsaida some people brought a child to him and asked Jesus to heal him. Jesus placed his hands on the blind man's eyes</p>	<p>Prayer: Help us, Father, never to take our sight for granted but always to value it as a precious gift from you.</p> <p>Hymn: As appropriate</p>	<p>Challenge the children to come up with a way of raising money for Guide Dogs for the Blind (and follow this through!)</p>

DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK

<p>From Creative Assemblies © Heather Butler, published by Scripture Union, PP 21-23, Used with Permission</p>	<p>and asked the man if he saw anything. The man looked up. “I see people,” he said. “They look like trees walking.” Jesus covered the man’s eyes once more and this time when the man looked up he could see clearly.</p> <p>Comment: Jesus healed the man’s eyes and for the first time the man could see the world around him. How strange it must be to see the world for the first time as an adult or to see the world after having lived in darkness for a long time. Those of us with sight cannot begin to imagine what this must be like.</p>	<p>Bartimaeus followed Jesus and found out as much as he could about him.</p> <p>Explore what it means to follow someone (think of examples from pop groups, footballers, friendship groups).</p> <p>Why do we follow other people? Are they always good people to follow?</p> <p>Christians believe Jesus is the very best person to follow.</p> <p>Prayer: Dear God, Thank you that, like</p>	<p>This could be linked to fund raising for Guide Dogs for the Blind.</p>
	<p>Children will: Hear the story of: : Mark 10:46-52 Think about people they ‘follow’ – are the good role models?</p> <p>You will need: blind fold, coins, food, bowl, coat/cloak</p> <p>Story... That is all Bartimaeus would have been able to do when Jesus came to visit Jericho. Bartimaeus was blind. He sat by the gates of the city hoping people would throw a coin or some food to him as they went by. He would collect them in his bowl as he sat on his cloak.</p> <p><i>(Ask some children to come to the front to help act the story out.)</i></p> <p>Well, one day, Bartimaeus was sitting in his usual spot, and most people were ignoring him as usual. Then he began hearing a name. People kept saying it. “Jesus! He’s coming to town. He’s on his way!” Bartimaeus must have sat up. He had heard about Jesus. He was the man who made people better, and he was going to walk past! There was only one thing for it. “Hey!” Bartimaeus yelled. “I’m over here.” “Be quiet,” everyone around him kept on saying. “He’s not interested in you.”</p>		

<p>Material by Margaret Cooling, Assemblies for Primary Schools: Spring Term: Pub RMEP, 1990,</p>	<p>“He is!” Bartimaeus said, and shouted even louder. “Jesus! I’m here! I’m over here!” Jesus was near now. Bartimaeus could tell because everyone was moving around him and saying things like, “Look, he’s coming!” There was only one thing for it. Bartimaeus took a deep breath and... Jesus stopped. Absolutely still. And the crowd stopped as well. And listened. “I’m over here!” “Call him,” Jesus said quietly.</p> <p><i>(You could play ‘Chinese whispers’ at this point to get Bartimaeus if that is appropriate.)</i></p> <p>So Bartimaeus was taken to Jesus. They had to calm him down a bit because, even though he couldn’t see and might have hurt himself, he started jumping up and down. “What do you want me for?” Jesus asked him. “I want you to make me see again,” Bartimaeus said. “OK,” Jesus said, “because of your faith in me, you will be well.” Bartimaeus blinked. Then he blinked again. He looked and there was someone smiling at him and that person was Jesus. “I can see!” he yelled. “I can see!” Jesus just grinned and carried on walking, followed by lots and lots of people. And one of those people following him was Bartimaeus.</p>	<p>Bartimaeus, we have the choice to follow Jesus if we want to and find out more about him. Amen.</p> <p>Prayer: Help us to understand that love is the key that unlocks the prisons people make for themselves.</p> <p>Hymn: You can build a wall around you. (CP)</p>	
	<p>You will need: Some toy handcuffs, large sheets of paper, pens, Blu-tak</p> <p>Introductory activity: Tick off the appropriate part of the job description.</p> <p>Use the toy handcuffs and talk about being in prison. What would a prisoner most miss in prison?</p> <p>Talk:</p>	<p>Prayer: Help us to understand that love is the key that unlocks the prisons people make for themselves.</p> <p>Hymn: You can build a wall around you. (CP)</p>	<p>Put the picture of a prison cell and bars on display and ask the children to put their ideas of types of prisons people build on a sticky note and add them to the picture.</p>



Diocese of
Rochester

DIOCESAN COLLECTIVE WORSHIP FRAMEWORK



The Diocese of
Canterbury

 THE CHURCH
OF ENGLAND

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Jesus did not open prison doors or unlock handcuffs. He did not set prisoners free in the sense of helping them escape from a building. Jesus set people free from invisible prisons: prisons of greed; prisons of selfishness; prisons of hate; prisons of envy.

People sometimes build their own prisons, they can be so selfish they are not free to give to others. Some can be so greedy they are not free to share. Others can be locked in a prison of hate so that they are not free to love. Some are trapped in a cell of envy so they are not free to enjoy what other people have.

Draw a prison cell with bars and ask the children to suggest the types of prison people build.

Comment:

Jesus taught love and forgiveness, justice and truth. He taught about living as God wanted us to and caring for others. He set people free to love and serve each other.