

## Title: Naming our Deepest Desires

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Mark 10:46-52 (NRSV)

46 They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. 47 When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" 48 Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" 49 Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." 50 So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. 51 Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." 52 Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

What keeps us from naming our deepest desires says a lot about the kind of God we imagine God to be.

1. God doesn't care
2. I don't deserve it
3. It's not possible.

I love the way Mark includes "director's notes" that help us really picture the scene in our minds...

- ✓Son of David, have mercy on me!
- ✓Jesus stood still
- ✓Throwing off his cloak
- ✓Let me see again

What is the good news to us?

1. God does care. God is merciful
2. It's not about your deserving. Jesus stops and pays attention even when others say, "Be quiet."
3. When faith is involved, all things are possible.

Do we know what our deepest desires are? What will bring the kind of transformation, healing, restoration that Bartimeus experiences?

Bartimaeus knows. He has gotten very clear about what he wants.

Illustration: Jack Sparrow's compass

We want lots of things. When that happens, our compass spins.

The place to start? Where Jesus stops!

It's knowing that Jesus wants to know our deepest desires. He wants to hear them, he wants to help form them, and he wants bring that change about.