



Devotional

Mark 10v 46-52

"Bartimaeus receives Sight"

This passage is probably not usually associated with prayer. Yet, what is prayer? Surely in its most simple form prayer is about coming to make our needs known before the Lord and that is precisely what blind Bartimaeus does.

1. Bartimaeus feels his Need

Like any blind man of Bartimaeus' day, without family to care for them, Bartimaeus had little option but sit by the roadside and beg. His situation was hopeless or so it seemed until the day that Jesus passed by. Even then it seemed that there were many obstacles to stop him coming to Jesus. The crowd around him were far from helpful, v48, but Bartimaeus knew this was his only chance.

Application: Perhaps the reason you don't pray is that you don't feel the desperation of your situation. You still believe that there are ways that you can make things happen by your own might. You have yet to fully grasp that if things are to happen in the work of God's kingdom, it will never be by human might or power. You are poor, you are destitute, you are dependent on the Spirit of God to work. May you feel your need and let nothing stop you from coming to pray!

2. Bartimaeus makes his Request

When Jesus hears the cry of this poor, blind beggar He calls him to come to Him. Immediately Bartimaeus threw off his cloak and sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus asked him a question, *"What do you want me to do for you?"* Without hesitation Bartimaeus said, *"Rabbi, let me recover my sight."*

Application: Have you the same boldness and directness as you speak out your requests to the Lord? Just by using that one word of address, "Rabbi," this blind man indicated that he knew the might of the one he was addressing. Do you recognise the power of the Saviour to answer your request? It doesn't matter how big, how personal, how threatening He's asking you today, *"What do you want me to do for you."* Step forward in faith and tell Him!

Prayer Calendar Western Europe August/September 2018

3. Bartimaeus followed Christ

Scripture tells us in verse 52, *"And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way."* His request was answered in response to the faith he exhibited.

Application: I wonder, when you pray, do you expect such a dramatic answer to your prayers? Are you asking in faith, believing that your request will be granted? The wonderful truth is that Bartimaeus' life was changed for ever by his response to that one simple request.

We can truly say that through your prayers over these months our God is able to change lives and situations!!

August 2018

1. Italy:

Please pray for the children/teen camps from 29th July - 4th August and from 19th - 25th August at Bergamo, in the North of Italy, and for a teen camp in Sicily from 30th July - 7th August. Pray that children and teens may have the desire to know the Lord personally and more and more.

2. France:

From 29th July to 4th August, 20 students will attend TCE1, 2 and 3, which will take place in the area of Paris. Please ask God that these training sessions will equip students to teach children effectively. Our prayer remains: Lord rescue boys and girls and make them to become more like Jesus.

3. Kilchzimmer:

Please pray for the 2nd part of the Leadership Training Course in Spanish from the 28th July until the 31st August. We are expecting a good group of 14 students and 6 children and teenagers.

4. Roy & Ruth Harrison: Area Directors, NW Europe:

Roy is teaching during most of August in the Spanish-speaking CMLC at Kilchzimmer. Pray that the Lord will help the students, teacher and Spanish interpreter.

5. Stephen & Pam Garrett, Area Directors SW Europe:

From today until the 10th, please remember Stephen & the team leading the non-residential camp over in Plumblund, Cumbria this week. Pray that boys and girls may trust the Saviour.

6. Lithuania:

Praise the Lord for the 5 Day clubs, day camps and residential camps, and for the saved souls of children. Please pray for the best possible follow-up with each of the saved children.

Philip & Denise Annett: Directors of Leadership & Ministry Development

Pray for us as we teach this week at a camp for 11-14 year olds. Pray that God will use His word to inform their minds and transform their hearts

7. Iceland:

Pray for Arni and Magnus and the team of volunteers, that the Lord will renew their strength as they hold the final camps for the summer at the Astjörn Centre in the north of Iceland.

8. Austria:

Pray for Matthias, Barbara and all those taking part in the summer campaign in the camping site at Neusiedl Lake, near Vienna. Pray that boys and girls, who are already believers, will be edified and the unsaved will be drawn to Christ.

9. Denmark:

Please pray for our workers Mette and Dorthe, and summer events in both their own churches for local kids in the areas around the churches.

10. Sweden:

Please pray for our 5-days Clubs in Holsbybrunn and Kallebäck.

11. Ireland:

We have opportunity to exhibit and promote the work of CEF at two large Missionary Conventions this month. Pray for good contacts and conversations.

12. EPM:

Praise God for His help during the Support Seminar in Germany. May each student continue to be blessed by what they learned, and have many opportunities to put it into practice in the next few months.

13. Stephen & Pam Garrett, Area Directors SW Europe:

Please ask that Stephen may be of help to the students at the Spanish speaking CMLC Module 2 this week at Kilchzimmer. Ask that as he teaches on the subject of the "CEF Missionary" that some students will be spoken to about becoming CEF missionaries in Spain.

14. Wondersurf:

We want to include "Every Day with God" as a web app to Wondersurf. Together with this enhancement Wondersurf will get a new layout. Please pray for the developers, designers, and also for the required finances for this project.

15. Wilna Shaw: CEF english speaking ministry in the Netherlands.

Pray for the promotion of the CityKids ministry for the English speaking/international churches in Amstelveen (Amsterdam area), where many English speaking families from USA, Britain, India and Africa are living.

16. Spain:

Pray that God will save many children in the open air clubs this summer.

17. Belgium:

Please pray for a satisfactory "untangling" of some delicate remaining issues during our transition period. Didi and I will be involved in VBS (French & English) and Peter also at Teenstreet (2500 youth) until the end of August.
May the Lord open many hearts for His cause.

18. Luxembourg:

We trust that our God will be opening some doors, in order to have a more fruitful presence in this needy country.

19. Germany:

The Benoit family has completed their ministry in Haiti, and will start to serve as local directors in the Nuremberg area. We pray that God will help them to settle in Germany and to build up a new local work successfully.

20. France:

Please praise with us the name of the Lord. Thanks to Him, four students have finished all the modules which allows them to complete the training required to become a CEF worker.

21. Gerd-Walter Buskies, European Director:

If possible every second Tuesday morning I meet online with Thomas Helsper and Oliver Klein, the two other members of the CEF Germany leadership team. We also include the chairman of the board. Please pray for these meetings that the Lord helps us and gives wisdom to lead the ministry in Germany.

22. Great Britain:

Praise God for the good progress **Humperdinck Jackman** has made in reviewing our data and communication processes so that we are compliant with the new General Data Protection Regulations (**GDPR**). Pray for all the workers and trustees as we clarify, finalise, and implement the recommendations made over these next two months.

23. Holland:

CityKids: For 3 years we had the focus on the city of Eindhoven. The work is planted there. Thanks to God, the team that existed will follow up the work. Please pray for clear guidance as we want to "enter" a new city in the county Noord-Brabant. Now we are thinking and praying for open doors in Bergen op Zoom/Roosendaal.

24. Development, Russell Brooks:

Please pray for our Extra Ordinary General Assembly to be held in Brussels today.

25. Latvia:

Pray today for our Party Club for families. Pray for new contacts to be made which could help develop children's ministry in this village.

26. Roy & Ruth Harrison: Area Directors, NW Europe:

Roy will be speaking in the morning service at Moutier Baptist Church in Switzerland today. Pray that the believers will be edified and the unsaved will be drawn to Christ.

27. Finland:

We ask prayer support for our instructor Marika, whose Christian kids' TV programs start coming out at the end of August. Please pray for Marika's health, as she has a lot of things going on at the moment.

28. Bogdan Bassara, Multimedia Director:

Thank the Lord for another year of the new curriculum to be used in Good News Clubs. We praise the Lord for many teachers who are encouraged with the new lessons and are letting us know about it. One said *"We love the new curriculum as it gives us lots of teaching ideas to choose from."*

29. Denmark:

Please pray for the family members of our former national director Kresten who are still mourning the loss of him. He passed away peacefully on the 9th of July. Pray especially for his wife Hanna and their two children, aged 16 and 18.

30. Estonia:

Pray for the Training Courses at the end of August – City Kids Training in a new area in Tallinn, and TCE-1 for new children's workers in North Estonia.

31. Gerd-Walter Buskies, European Director:

Tonight, I preach at the graduation of the Spanish CMLC at Kilchzimmer. Please pray that the Lord will speak again to the students before they go home. Pray also, that as a result of this last CMLC at Kilchzimmer many children will hear the Gospel. And pray for those of the students who plan to join the ministry full time that God guides them in every step.

September 2018

1. Lithuania:

Please pray for the training of new children's workers in Vilnius, our capital city, and for the translations of new materials.

2. France:

From 2nd to 5th several meetings will take place at the French national office with European French speaking countries. May God bless as we discuss many subjects which France, Belgium and Switzerland have in common.

3. Austria:

Ask the Lord to bring children with prepared hearts to the Good News Clubs, religious education classes in schools, mums and toddlers' groups and other regular activities which are held during the school year in the Graz, Innsbruck, Salzburg and Vienna areas.

4. CEF Germany:

We pray that all the Good News Clubs can be restarted, and that the children will come back after the long summer vacation.

5. Iceland:

Pray for the camp leaders and counsellors as they follow-up those who attended the summer Bible camps. Pray that the campers will have the hunger and possibility to receive more teaching from God's Word.

6. Great Britain:

Pray for the meeting of the **National Committee** in London, that we will know unity and wisdom as we review progress since May, and discuss the matters before us and finalise plans for the autumn workers' conference from 6-8 November.

7. Gerd-Walter Buskies, European Director:

Over the weekend, I am in Germany for executive meetings on Saturday and preaching in two services in my home church (two locations) on Sunday. On Monday Oliver Klein and I visit Brake Bible school to promote the European and German CEF ministry. Please pray that the Lord gives wisdom and strength for this full weekend.

8. Denmark:

Please pray for our volunteer party after the summer ministries – that it will be a time of thanksgiving but also where God will renew a burden for the kids and the ministry of CEF in the hearts of the volunteers.

9. EPM:

Please pray for friends who would be interested in supporting European projects. The updated projects are on www.everychildineurope.com and we continue to update this site so that those who are interested in praying and giving for specific projects, will have access to up-to-date information.

10. Sweden:

Pray for a possibility to start a new Good News Club in Kallebäck this autumn.

11. Estonia:

Pray for JYC training course in South-Estonia. Teenagers need the right methods, and also good Gospel presentation. Pray for 4 instructors who will be leading the course.

12. Bogdan Bassara, Multimedia Director:

Today we start another Multimedia Advisory Group Meeting. Please pray that the full agenda will be covered, and that the decisions made after the meeting will result in reaching and teaching more boys and girls.

13. Latvia:

Pray for a good start of the new Good News Club cycle.

14. Gerd-Walter Buskies, European Director:

This weekend I'm preaching at Bereg Camp/Ukraine. After the fire, the finished reconstructed building plus

another completely new building will be dedicated to the Lord. Please pray for the service and especially that the Lord will continue to make this centre a place of great blessing to many children.

15. Development, Russell Brooks:

Please pray for us as we negotiate for a new National office premises we wish to rent in Lisbon for the work in Portugal. This will also require some funding for renovation to make it suitable for our needs.

16. Ireland:

Our workers will gather for staff conference (16th to 20th). Pray that this will be an encouraging and beneficial time together.

17. Finland:

We have translated "the Bible timeline" into Finnish. Ask God to give us wisdom how to advertise it and make it available to many teachers, even in the schools.

18. Bogdan Bassara, Multimedia Director:

Continue to pray for the massive work of translating the CEF literature into over 90 languages around the world, many of those are in Europe. Pray that we will be able to find translators who are also trained by CEF so they know the CEF language.

19. Lithuania:

Please pray for the plans for the new school year: for ministry growth in Kaunas, Vilnius and Klaipėda, for more volunteers, and places to hold Good News Clubs and JYC.

20. CityKids France:

Please continue to pray for CityKids events in Saint Denis, Auxerre and Dijon. May God bless our partnership with local churches in these cities.

21. Denmark:

Please pray for a big interdenominational children's conference where CEF will have several workshops and a booth with materials and leaflets.

22. Kilchzimmer:

Today we give thanks to the Lord for all His blessing at Kilchzimmer. A thanksgiving service with guests from near and far is planned for this afternoon. Pray that the Lord will be honoured, and everyone present encouraged. Pray also for all the work that needs to be done in the coming months to prepare the centre for the handing over to a new owner.

Ireland:

Pray that God will bless our Autumn Conference, which takes place today with the theme of "Teach us to Pray."

23. Stephen & Pam Garrett, Area Directors SW Europe:

Please ask God to help us as we promote the work of South West Europe during a week of deputation meetings in the Belfast Area (23-29). Pray that there will

be those who are interested in becoming ministry partners with us in our role as Area Directors in the 8 SW Europe countries.

24. Finland:

We have two new part-time workers who start working for us in August: Elina and Jouni. Please pray for a smooth start and increasing financial support.

25. Bogdan Bassara: Multimedia Director:

Thank the Lord that *Every Day with God 1-6* are completed. Pray that this will help us as we make a special emphasis on the Every Day aspect of our vision. Pray that we will see those excellent booklets being used across Europe.

Philip & Denise Annett: Directors of Leadership & Ministry Development

Pray for Philip as he flies to Sri Lanka today to lead and teach at the National Directors Institute in Sri Lanka. The course will run from the 1st to the 12th October. Pray the course will be a blessing to the 25 National Directors attending from various parts of the world!

26. Great Britain:

Pray for the CEF workers as we attempt our second online team meeting. Pray that we will learn from, listen and respond well to each other in this way.

27. Italy:

Thanks for praying for the preparation of the first TCE-2 course to be held in October, and for enough interested people to take the course.

28. Wondersurf:

Pray that we can finalize very soon three language sites for Central Asia, as well as the Arabic Wondersurf version, and that many children will use it.

29. Roy & Ruth Harrison: Area Directors, NW Europe:

Roy and Ruth Harrison are sharing today in a farewell service for Huguette Crisinel, who has been serving for 33 years as a CEF worker in French-speaking Switzerland. Pray for the Lord's blessing on Huguette and the ongoing work among the children in Switzerland.

30. Development, Russell Brooks:

Please pray for our workers' retreat in Portugal to be held during the 1st week of October at the Azores camp centre.

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