



### Discussion Question and Spiritual Practices

#### Mark 10:32-52

**1. Where are you most tempted to see Jesus through the lens of your expectations rather than who He is?** Read Mark 10:32-34 and Isaiah 53.

Jesus predicts His suffering, but the disciples can't make sense of it. What expectations—about God, success, faith, or comfort might be clouding your vision of who Jesus really is?

- Have you ever been disappointed by Jesus? What did that reveal about your expectations?
- How does knowing Jesus chose the cross shape affect how you interpret your hardships?

**2. In what ways does ambition—spiritual or otherwise—distract you from the call to servanthood?** Read Mark 10:35-45 and Philippians 2:5-11.

James and John wanted status. Jesus redefines greatness through servanthood. How is that message challenging or uncomfortable for you right now?

- Where in your life do you seek to be seen or recognized?
- What would “hidden service” look like for you this week?

**3. Why do you think Bartimaeus' cry for mercy was so powerful? What would it look like for you to pray that same prayer today?** Read Mark 10:46-52 and Psalm 51.

Bartimaeus doesn't ask for status—he asks for healing. Jesus responds with compassion and clarity. What keeps us from being that honest with God?

- What area of your life needs healing or clarity right now?
- How can your group pray for one another like Bartimaeus prayed?

### Spiritual Practices:

When you read through the gospels, you begin to realize that Jesus was always giving an invitation to follow him, to come and listen or to shed your burdens. Below are three spiritual practices that are invitational. They are not “must-dos” or “should-dos.” They are invitations to practice being in the presence of Jesus. The more time we spend with Him, the more we will know Him, which in turn will allow us to be like Him. Ultimately, the results are that we will begin to do what Jesus would do if He were you.

There is a spiritual practice for each point in the message. The invitation is to choose one, two or all three. Enjoy!

#### Point 1: **Spiritual Practices for Seeing Clearly:**

- **Scripture Immersion in Isaiah 53:** Read it slowly for 7 days. Ask: “What kind of Messiah do I believe in?”

#### Point 2: **Spiritual Practices for Servanthood:**

- **Hidden Service:** Do something no one will ever know about—take out your roommate’s trash, write a thank-you note, bless someone anonymously.

#### Point 3: **Spiritual Practices for Receiving Mercy:**

- **Silence and Listening:** Spend 5-10 minutes each day in silence, asking Jesus, “Where am I still blind?”