

**Message Notes**  
**"Now's My Chance!"**  
**Mark 10:46-52**  
**Jesus: The Gospel of Mark, Part 28**  
**November 13, 2011**



Bartimaeus' blindness made him an impoverished outcast who was living in darkness. (v. 46)

Jesus arrived with compassion and the power to help Bartimaeus. (v. 51-52)

Bartimaeus responded to Jesus by faith, trusting that Jesus could heal him. (v. 51)

**Jesus – our merciful Rescuer!**

Spiritual blindness causes us to live in the darkness of sin and separation from God. (Romans 3:23, Romans 5:12, 6:23)

Jesus' death on the cross makes possible the forgiveness of sin and reconciliation with God. (Romans 5:8, 1 John 1:9, 2 Corinthians 5:17-19, Romans 5:9-11)

Answer Jesus' call today! Surrender your life to Him by faith and receive the gift of life – life eternal and life to the full!  
(Matthew 11:28-30, 2 Corinthians 6:2, John 14:6, Romans 10:9, Romans 6:23, John 3:16, John 10:10)

**Jesus – our merciful Rescuer!** (Ephesians 2:4-5)

**Growth Group Questions**  
**"Now's My Chance!"**  
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Describe a time when you were treated like an outcast.

**Read our teaching passage again together – Mark 10:46-52.** How do you respond when a beggar approaches you on the street? Contrast the reaction of the crowd in verse 48 to their reaction in verse 49. What changed? What does this teach us about how we are to respond to outcasts / beggars?

**Read Mark 10:17-22.** In the eyes of this world, who would make the more "attractive" recruit to become a follower of Jesus... the rich young man or Bartimaeus? What is different about Bartimaeus that enables him to more easily become a follower of Jesus?

**Read James 5:13-16.** How do you reconcile that passage with the fact that God does not seem to bring healing to all who ask in faith? Consider also 2 Corinthians 7b-10, James 1:2-4 and Romans 8:28-30 as you discuss this.

Describe a time in your spiritual journey when Jesus, by the power of the Holy Spirit at work in your life, brought light where there had been darkness. This could be part of how you came to faith in Christ, or it could relate to God purifying you from a sin pattern, etc.

Have you, by faith, trusted your life to Jesus Christ? If so, have you obeyed his command to be baptized? Baptism is an outward declaration of the change that has occurred in your heart as a result of surrendering your life to Jesus by faith. Contact the church office ASAP if you'd like to be baptized on November 27<sup>th</sup>. If you haven't yet become a follower of Christ, please consider sharing that with your group because they would love to be praying for you and encouraging in any way possible. **Spend some time praying for one another and thanking God for sending His Son Jesus, our merciful Rescuer!**