



SMALL GROUP DISCUSSION

DATE January 31

BIBLE PASSAGE Luke 18:35-43

1. KNOW THE CONTEXT

The Book of Luke is a collection of stories about the life and teachings of Jesus.

Luke was a Greek Doctor, and the only non-Jew author to have written a book in the New Testament. He is also known for writing in great detail with an emphasis on dates. He is what we would call a Type A personality. Luke's desire for accuracy and details can give us greater confidence in the reliability of the history of the life of Jesus.

In the passage for today Jesus was traveling to Jericho. As he passed by, a man cried out to him. The man was blind, which left him as a lower class citizen in that time. Most people wouldn't give him the time, he was viewed as useless to society. He was unable to work, and relegated to begging on the roadside. The man, left in a desperate state, can only call out to Jesus for mercy, and Jesus being loving, heals the man. Jesus tells him his faith has made him well.

2. READ THE BIBLE PASSAGE TOGETHER

3. SPEND TIME IN OBSERVATION

Which verses, ideas, or characters stuck out to you?
What questions could come from this passage?

Observation notes:

Questions:

4. SPEND TIME IN INTERPRETATION

What did this passage mean to the original audience?

What would it have felt like to be a character in this passage, and who in the passage is the hero/role model (if any)?

What's the main point of this passage?

Questions	Answers
When you are in a difficult or desperate situation, who or what do you put your faith in?	Could be self, family, friends. Ultimately as Christians we are promised that we can find hope and peace in our faith in Jesus.
What kind of situation was the blind man in?	He was pretty desperate. He was unable to work because of his disability, and so he was only able to beg. He maybe felt useless, unwanted, broken. See Verse 35
Why do you think the blind man was so desperate that Jesus hear him?	He had most likely heard about Jesus and the miracles he had done. Jesus was his only hope of getting his sight back. There were no widely available resources at that time that could help, he believed Jesus could change his situation. See verse 39
What do you think Jesus meant by the statement, "your faith has healed you?"	When Jesus said to certain people, "Your faith has made you well," He was saying that their faith (their confidence in Him) had been the means of their restoration. The power of Christ was what effected the cure, but His power was applied in connection with their faith.
How can the blind mans faith be similar to our faith in Jesus to become Christians?	Salvation comes to us through faith. Everyone who is saved must believe (Romans 10:9-10), but it is the power of Jesus that saves, not the power of faith. Faith is only the instrument, not the power itself.

5. SPEND TIME IN APPLICATION

What is the "universal truth" God wants to teach us from this passage?

How can we apply the message of this passage to our daily lives?

The blind man was in a desperate position due to his physical status, what areas are people desperate today?

What would putting our faith in Jesus look like today in our everyday life?

What are the desperate areas in your life that you would love to cry out to Jesus about?

What things are holding you back from calling out to Jesus like the blind man did?



6. PRAY

Follow-up notes: