

## LEARNING FOCUS 1: Jesus cares for the sick.

### CONTENT

From the very beginning of Jesus' ministry, he was concerned with the sick and needy. He never turned anyone away even when he was tired and weary. In Jesus' day, there were many sick people and they often had to survive by begging at the roadside. Read *Jesus gives sight to a blind man*. This story from Luke illustrates Jesus' compassion:

***As Jesus was coming near Jericho, there was a blind man sitting by the road, begging. When he heard the crowd passing by, he asked, "What is this?"***

***"Jesus of Nazareth is passing by", they told him.***

***He cried out, "Jesus! Son of David! Have mercy on me!" The people in front scolded him and told him to be quiet. But he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David! Have mercy on me!"***

***So Jesus stopped and ordered the blind man to be brought to him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?"***

***"Sir", he answered, "I want to see again." Jesus said to him, "Then see! Your faith has made you well." At once he was able to see, and he followed Jesus, giving thanks to God. When the crowd saw it, they all praised God.***

**(Luke 18: 35-43)**

### SOME KEY QUESTIONS

- Q Why do you think Jesus was so concerned with the sick and needy?
- Q Why do you think the people scolded the blind man?
- Q How do you think the blind man felt?
- Q What was Jesus' attitude to the blind man?
- Q What do you think Jesus meant when he said, 'Your faith has made you well'?
- Q What do you think of the attitude of the people once they saw Jesus' healing power?
- Q How do you think the blind man felt when he could see?

### Activity

- Imagine you are the blind man. Write a diary about what happened, his experience of this encounter with Jesus and his faith and how it shaped his life.



Possible sentence starters:

Today was truly an amazing day because...

I still cannot believe what happened today when...

When I discovered that Jesus was approaching, I couldn't let him simply pass me by because/so...

Although the crowd scolded me...

My faith was at the very heart...and when Jesus said 'Your faith has made you well'...

I shall never forget what Jesus has done for me...

From this day onwards, I will ensure...