

B.L.E.S.S. Discussion Questions

- Have you ever felt unheard? What was that like for you?
- When you think about really listening to others, what kind of “noise” tends to get in the way for you?
- **Read together the story of Bartimaeus in Mark 10:46-52.** Talk about some things you notice from the passage. What stands out to you about Jesus' words, actions or posture toward this man?
- On Sunday, we identified three truths about listening. Talk through these one at a time and share: How have you seen this in your own life? Why do you think this is true? Why do you think this matters?
 - Listening makes the other person the center of your attention.
 - Listening honors the person and their story.
 - Listening can lead to following.
- Review the four Hs (categories for the types of questions we can ask as we seek to be better listeners).
 - *History* - questions that help you learn this person's story
 - *Heart* - questions that help you know what this person enjoys, what they are passionate about, or what their favorite things are
 - *Habits* - questions that help you find out what they like to do
 - *Hurt* - questions that allow a person to share what's difficult
- Thinking about your “Who's My Neighbor” boxes, share which of the H categories would be good to explore with each person in your “neighborhood.”
- How will you commit to being a better listener this week?