

WEEK 1

DISCUSSION GUIDE



THIS WEEK

BIG IDEA

Jesus shows us listening is worth repeating.

BIBLE

Mark 10:46–52; Proverbs 18:13;
James 1:19

ABOUT THIS WEEK

Music plays in the background of almost every store we enter, but how often do we actually listen to it? This week, we'll look at the story where Jesus stopped to listen to a man named Bartimaeus. By slowing down to pay attention to what was happening in the lives of the people around him, **Jesus shows us listening is worth repeating.**

- What is a song that gets stuck in your head any time you hear it?
- Was there a time when you felt like you felt genuinely listened to? How did it make you feel? What did they do to make you feel listened to?
- How do you think doing something for someone without listening to them might actually hurt the relationship—even if you are doing something helpful?
- Why do you think Jesus asked Bartimaeus what Jesus wanted him to do for him?
- When you have needs, do you feel like you can ask for them like Bartimaeus? What holds you back from asking?
- What characters in the story did you relate with the most? If you had been in their positions, what would have been going through your mind? How would you have reacted? Would you have done anything differently?
- This week, how will you use listening as a way to love someone in your own life?
- Read James 1:19. How do you think being quick to speak and slow to listen makes anger more likely?
- What is one way you want to commit to intentionally listening before speaking this week?
- Today, what is one relationship where you can begin practicing this week's listening on repeat? What will that look like in practice?



INSTRUCTIONS: Make a small group playlist. Have each person pick a song to add to a playlist your group can listen to this week to help reflect on what it looks like to listen to others.