

Sermon Title: "Jesus is ready when you are"...

Setting the context: Joshua 6:1-5

(The Fall of Jericho)

6 Now Jericho was tightly shut up because of the Israelites. No one went out and no one came in.

² Then the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have delivered Jericho into your hands, along with its king and its fighting men. ³ March around the city once with all the armed men. Do this for six days. ⁴ Have seven priests carry trumpets of rams' horns in front of the ark. On the seventh day, march around the city seven times, with the priests blowing the trumpets. ⁵ When you hear them sound a long blast on the trumpets, have all the people give a loud shout; then the wall of the city will collapse and the people will go up, every man straight in."

¹

Main Text: Mark 10: 46-52 Blind Bartimaeus Receives His Sight

⁴⁶ Then they came to Jericho. As Jesus and his disciples, together with a large crowd, were leaving the city, a blind man, Bartimaeus (that is, the Son of Timaeus), was sitting by the roadside begging. ⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁸ Many rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁹ Jesus stopped and said, "Call him."

So they called to the blind man, "Cheer up! On your feet! He's calling you." ⁵⁰ Throwing his cloak aside, he jumped to his feet and came to Jesus.

⁵¹ "What do you want me to do for you?" Jesus asked him. The blind man said, "Rabbi, I want to see."

¹ *The Holy Bible : New International Version.* electronic ed. Grand Rapids : Zondervan, 1996, c1984, S. Jos 6:1-5

⁵² “Go,” said Jesus, “your faith has healed you.”
Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus along
the road.

Questions for reflection/discussion

- 1. Why was Jericho significant in this passage of scripture? Read through the Joshua passage?**
- 2. Why do we sometimes define others by their deficiencies?**
- 3. When was the last time you were guilty of such behavior? Is the church guilty? What should we do about it?**
- 4. What did blind Bartimaeus teach us?**
- 5. Why did the crowd object? Why did they rebuke him? Look at verse 48...**

Digging Deeper: Reflect on your life for a moment and ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any personal deficiency?

Personal Prayer Focus: Father, help me to speak a word of encouragement to all people, regardless of their stature in life.