

POINT ➔ **WE ASK
JESUS FOR HELP.**

Have kids form pairs. Open your Bible to John 9, and show children the words. **SAY: As Penny tells us what God's special book, the Bible, says, listen carefully to the directions. The partner with the shortest hair in each pair will play Jesus, and the partner with the longest hair will be the blind man.**

Using *Penny the Puppy*, **SAY: One day Jesus was walking along and he saw a blind man. Jesus said the man was blind so people could see God's power when Jesus healed him. Jesus spit on the dirt to make mud and rubbed the mud on the blind man's eyes. Partners playing Jesus, pretend to spit and make mud, and pretend to rub it on your partner's eyes. Be careful not to poke anyone's eyes! Pause. Now talk with each other about what you think of what Jesus did. Pause.**

SAY: Then Jesus told the blind man to go and take a bath in a special pool. So the blind man went to the pool, and when he came back, he could see! Partners playing the blind man, pretend to take a bath. Pause. Now close your eyes, turn your head, open your eyes, and call out the first thing you see. Pause.

People wanted to know how the blind man could see, and he told them that Jesus had healed him. The blind man said it's because ➔ **WE ASK JESUS FOR HELP,** and he helps us.

ASK: What's something you like to do that you couldn't do if you were blind?

How could someone help you do that thing if you were blind?

SAY: Whether or not someone can see, everyone needs Jesus' help. That's why ➔ WE ASK JESUS FOR HELP.



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SAY: ➔ **WE ASK JESUS FOR HELP.**
Let's sing a song about the blind man who got help from Jesus.

Sing ● "Jesus Touched and Healed the Blind Man" (track 18) on the CD to the tune of "She'll Be Comin' Round the Mountain." Repeat the song a few times so children learn the words. As children sing, have them cover their eyes for the first part of each line.

SING:

Jesus touched and healed the blind man. "I can see! Yee-haw!"
(pump your fist in the air)

Jesus touched and healed the blind man. "I can see! Yee-haw!"
(pump your fist in the air)

Jesus touched and healed the blind man.

Oh, my Jesus is a kind man!
Jesus touched and healed the blind man. "I can see! Yee-haw!"
(pump your fist in the air)

(Repeat.)

ASK: Tell about a time something exciting happened to you.

How do you celebrate when something exciting happens?

SAY: When Jesus healed the blind man, the man was excited and told people he could see. And we know he believed in Jesus and worshipped him. When ➔ **WE ASK JESUS FOR HELP** and he helps us, we can celebrate by worshipping Jesus and telling others about it, too.

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Have children sit in a circle and close their eyes. Gently bounce the *Bubble Ball* to a few children. They probably won't catch it since their eyes are closed. Help children retrieve the ball, and continue, encouraging kids to listen to the bounce when trying to catch it.

After several bounces, tell kids that since it's too hard to catch the ball without being able to see, you're going to have them try to figure out which color your thumb is on. With kids' eyes still closed, throw the ball straight up in the air and catch it, and ask kids to guess what color your thumb is touching. Repeat a few times.

ASK: What was hard about this game?

What things would be hard for a blind person to do?

What new things could a blind man do after Jesus helped him see?

Repeat the catching game, this time letting kids keep their eyes open. After everyone has had a turn to catch the ball, SAY: **It's so much easier to catch the ball when you can see! I bet the blind man could do a lot more fun things after Jesus healed him! It's also easier to do anything with Jesus' help! That's why ➔ WE ASK JESUS FOR HELP.**

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SAY: ➔ **WE ASK JESUS FOR HELP.**
We're going to do an activity where
you might need some help!

Have children form pairs. Give each child a piece of paper, and spread out the *Pip-Squeaks Markers*. Have partners take turns closing their eyes and trying to draw a picture of the blind man. The partner with open eyes should watch and give a warning when the partner who is drawing is about to go off the page. Then switch roles so the other person in each pair gets a chance to draw.

Once everyone has drawn a blind man, pass out a small lump of *Rainbow Clay* to each child. Have kids pretend it's the mud Jesus made and spread it on the eyes of the blind man in their pictures. Now that they can all see, have them remove the clay, turn the paper over, and try to draw a better picture with their eyes open.

ASK: Which picture do you like better, and why?

How did your partner help you when you couldn't see?

How is that like how Jesus helped the blind man?

SAY: Jesus helped the blind man see, and he'll help us anytime.
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Have kids line up along one wall. SAY: **We're going to play a game, but we're going to be blind. Your goal is to get across the room without opening your eyes. Use baby steps and go slowly, because we don't want anyone to get hurt. Try to get all the way across the room. If you are about to crash into someone or look like you need help, I'll tap you on the head and you can open your eyes for the rest of the game.**

Let children try to cross the room. Tap kids on the head if they look like they're going to crash, so that no one gets hurt. Tap all children on the head before they reach the far end of the room, so that everyone ends the activity with open eyes.

SAY: ➔ **WE ASK JESUS FOR HELP. In this game, you needed my help. But Jesus can help you better than I ever could.**

ASK: **Why was crossing the room when you were blind harder than when you could see?**

How does Jesus help people?

SAY: **It was hard—maybe even scary—to walk when you couldn't see. When our lives are hard and scary, ➔ WE ASK JESUS FOR HELP. He helped a blind man see! He can help us with any problems we face.**