

FRIEND OF SINNERS

Part 2: Jesus + Messy People

September 28 & 29, 2019 • Brian Behrends, Creative Pastor

**Oftentimes we're so afraid of the mess
that we miss out on the moment.**

Luke 18:35-43

³⁵ As Jesus approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. ³⁶ When he heard the crowd going by, he asked what was happening. ³⁷ They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by."

³⁸ He called out, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!"

³⁹ Those who led the way rebuked him and told him to be quiet, but he shouted all the more, "Son of David, have mercy on me!"

⁴⁰ Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, ⁴¹ "What do you want me to do for you?"

"Lord, I want to see," he replied.

⁴² Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has healed you."

⁴³ Immediately he received his sight and followed Jesus, praising God. When all the people saw it, they also praised God.

**The same people who told the blind man to be quiet
were the ones praising God.**

Jesus invites us to stop. *(verse 40)*

Jesus invites us to say it out loud. *(verse 41)*

Jesus invites us to come close. *(verse 40)*

Galatians 6:2

Carry each other's burdens, and in this way you will fulfill the law of Christ.

Small Group Questions

- 1) Do you know someone who's particularly good at entering into other people's messes? What makes them so good at it?
- 2) Do you feel like you have enough margin in your life to stop for someone in need when God says stop? What would it take for you to create that margin?
- 3) What's something that keeps you from inviting people closer?
- 4) Is there something you've been too afraid to ask God for? Can you share it with us? What has made you reluctant to ask God?
- 5) How can we pray for you right now and throughout the week?