In Mark 10:46–52, Jesus is leaving Jericho on the road to Jerusalem, (Ronny read this and showed a map of where the journey took them) when Bartimaeus, a blind beggar sitting beside the road, hears that he is passing. Bartimaeus cries out, “Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!” Although the crowd rebukes him and tells him to be quiet, he calls out even more loudly. Jesus stops and asks the crowd to call him. The people who had silenced Bartimaeus now tell him to take heart because Jesus is calling him.

Bartimaeus throws off his cloak, gets up and comes to Jesus. When Jesus asks, “What do you want me to do for you?”, he answers plainly: he wants to see. Jesus tells him that his faith has healed him. Bartimaeus immediately receives his sight and follows Jesus along the road. The sermon emphasises that the story ends in discipleship: the man who sat beside the road now walks with Jesus towards Jerusalem.

Bartimaeus recognises Jesus as the “Son of David”, a title that points to the promised king. Jesus answers his plea with compassion. Ronny compared this kindness with King David’s welcome of Mephibosheth, who was given a place at the king’s table. In Jesus, the rejected person is seen, called and welcomed. His power is shown in the way he stops for someone the crowd overlooks.

Bartimaeus’s faith is expressed through persistent trust. He keeps calling despite opposition, leaves his cloak behind and responds when Jesus calls him. His physical sight is restored, yet he had already recognised something about Jesus that others missed. Ronny’s message invited listeners to bring their needs honestly to Jesus, to make room for people on the margins, and to follow Him after receiving his help.

Ronny concluded by inviting us to consider what this story means for our own lives.

Call him (Jesus).
Keep calling.
And when he calls you, get up.
Leave that old cloak behind. Drop off all your burdens, your history, your worries, your shortcomings, and follow him on the road…because the promise that our true father made still holds.
If you call him, he will call you.