



## **MCA DISCUSSION GUIDE**

**APRIL 25**

**Week 3: Communication Goals**

### **OPENING THOUGHT**

Few things can wreak havoc in our relationships more than a breakdown in communication. Communication is vital in our relationships. Because we are heard by God, we can grow as a listener. We should learn to listen and learn from Jesus.

### **ICE BREAKER**

- Remember the game telephone? When it came back to the original person, how much had it changed? Why?
- Good communication is a vital part of any healthy relationship, but communicating well takes hard work. Do you consider yourself a good listener?

### **DISCUSSION**

- Read Luke 18:35-43. What does the story of the Bartimaeus demonstrate about Jesus' character?
- Besides the miracle of sight, what else did the interaction with Jesus give this man?
- Why do you think the crowd wanted to silence the beggar?
- Author David Augsburger writes: "Being listened to is so close to being loved that the average person cannot tell the difference." Agree or disagree?

### **LIFE APPLICATION**

- What do you consider good communication?
- What barriers to listening have you experienced in your relationships?
- Recall a time in a relationship which you were unheard or when you didn't listen to someone else. What happened because of it?
- When you listen and know another person, they feel loved. How can you practice this equation with the people around you? Who needs you to listen and know them?

### **CHALLENGE**

Author of the book "The 7 Habits of Highly Effective People" Stephen R. Covey says, "Most people do not listen with the intent to understand; they listen with the intent to reply." This week, focus on listening to those around you with the intent to make them feel heard and known and therefore, loved just as we are loved by God.