



CHRISTIAN RECORD

SERVICES FOR THE BLIND

2018 Christian Record Annual Day of Giving Tips and Discussion Starters

Practical Tips for Befriending a Person Who is Blind

- Strike up a conversation. A simple "Hi" often works best.
- If the person offers their hand for a handshake, take it.
- Ask about them, their cane, their guide dog. Ask about their visual impairment. If the person doesn't want to share, he or she will say so.
- Always ask before offering help of any kind.
- It's nice to compliment a service animal and its owner; however, do not approach, kneel, or try to entice the animal to stop working if it's wearing a service harness and vest. Though your interaction is innocent, you could put the owner's life in danger.
- Maintain eye contact during a conversation. Though the person may not see you clearly, he can tell when you turn your head and voice away.
- If you have to leave the conversation, say so. It's embarrassing for a person who is blind to continue a conversation with no one there.
- Want to continue the conversation later? Offer your contact information first.
- Above all else, remember a person who is legally blind is a person first.

Group Discussion Questions/ Icebreakers

- In the offering video, *Going Through Life with God* (available at www.CRSBday.org, under Videos), Maddox talks about the impact blind camp had on his life and how it influenced his decision to be a Christian.
 - Who influences you at home, church, school, or work? Though books, magazines, or movies? How about social media? Do these influences draw you closer to God? Why or why not?
- Name a Bible character who illustrates "going through life with God."
- What has God helped you to learn or overcome?
- Share a time when you were able to be a positive influence in someone's life (or a time when someone was a positive influence on you). What made the difference?
- Share the letter from Harmony, Maddox's mom (www.CRSBday.org, under Bonus Content). Have you ever been bullied or witnessed bullying? What advice would you give to someone who has been hurt by a bully? What tips do you have for the children in your life who may witness bullying or be targeted by a bully?
- Additional resources for ways to combat bullying are available at www.CRSBday.org, under Bonus Content.
- How are you going through life with God?

Do you have more discussion tips or ideas? Post them on our Twitter feed: @CRSBfriends.