



*If I told you,  
What would you do?*

# *Would you respect my choices?*

**I need** you to try to understand the reasons for my choices.

**I need** you to respect my need to protect and take care of myself.

**I need** you to tell me if you are required to let anyone else know.

**I need** to be informed and involved if you have to act immediately to keep me and others safe.

**I need** to be safeguarded, but I need you not to take control away from me.

**I need** to be and feel in control of what happens to me at all stages and in all domains: spiritual, physical and emotional.

**I need** to be and feel treated as an individual.

**I need** you not to expect me to do what you think you would do in my place.

**I need** you to keep supporting me even if you disagree with my choices.





*As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging.  
... He shouted, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!'  
Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet;  
but he shouted even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!'  
Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him;  
and when he came near, he asked him,  
**'What do you want me to do for you?'**  
He said, 'Lord, let me see again.' Jesus said to him,  
**'Receive your sight; your faith has saved you.'***

Luke 18:35-42 abridged

## **Jesus does not make assumptions about what Bartimaeus, the blind man, needs. He accepts Bartimaeus for who he is now.**

Others ignore him, but Jesus listens and acts according to his wishes. When we respond to disclosures it is important to respect the choices of the person sharing their story.

It can be easy to assume what a person needs, whereas Jesus shows us not to make our own judgements but to ask. There may be times when we need to act to safeguard a person, however we must still involve them in this process and keep the person informed.

