

Daily Reflections



Center for Spiritual Development

LORD, LET ME SEE

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Today's Gospel

*As Jesus approached Jericho
a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging,
and hearing a crowd going by, he inquired what was happening.
They told him,
"Jesus of Nazareth is passing by."
He shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!"
The people walking in front rebuked him,
telling him to be silent,
but he kept calling out all the more,
"Son of David, have pity on me!"
Then Jesus stopped and ordered that he be brought to him;
and when he came near, Jesus asked him,
"What do you want me to do for you?"
He replied, "Lord, please let me see."
Jesus told him, "Have sight; your faith has saved you."
He immediately received his sight*

*and followed him, giving glory to God.
When they saw this, all the people gave praise to God.*

LUKE 18:35-43

Reflection

There are two other accounts of Jesus healing someone who is blind. Let's look at the similarities and differences.

In Matthew's account (20:29-34), there are these similarities with Luke's narrative: Jesus and his disciples are leaving Jericho; the two blind men are sitting by the roadside; when the blind men hear that Jesus is passing by, they cry out; the crowd tells them to be silent; Jesus asks them what they want him to do for them; they respond, "let our eyes be opened"; when they regained their sight, the previously blind men follow Jesus.

Mark's account (10: 46-52) includes similar details: Jesus and the disciples are leaving Jericho with a sizable crowd; Bartimaeus is sitting at the roadside, he cries out and the crowd "rebukes" him; he continues to call out; Jesus calls him and asks him what he wants. When he is healed, Bartimaeus "followed him on the way."

Let's look the differences:

In Matthew's account, there are two unnamed blind men, and their sight is restored because Jesus was moved with pity and touched their eyes. In Mark's account, Bartimaeus is described as "the son of Timaeus"; when Jesus overrides the crowd telling Bartimaeus to be silent and says to call him, the crowd says, "Take courage, get up, he is calling you." Bartimaeus responds to Jesus' call by throwing aside his cloak, springing up, and going to Jesus.

In the three accounts, different titles are used for Jesus: Jesus, Son of David, Master, Lord.



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For Pondering

The details in these accounts suggest some avenues for reflection:

- When have I recognized some blindness in myself?
 - What was it like to “call out” to Jesus?
 - How have I heard Jesus call me to come to him?
 - When have I heard Jesus ask me what I want him to do for me?
 - What do I want Jesus to do for me?
 - How have I been following Jesus?
 - What is my preferred name/title for Jesus?
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For Prayer

*Open my eyes, Lord,
Help me to see your face.
Open my eyes, Lord,
Help me to see.*

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