

Daily Reflections



SEEING CLEARLY

By Sr. Katherine "Kit" Gray, CSJ

Introduction & Pre-Reading Reflection

Today's reading is from the Gospel of Mark. Of the four Gospels, it is the shortest; it was written about 70 a.d. The author is unknown; however, tradition calls him "Mark" and identifies him with John Mark, a cousin of Barnabas and sometime interpreter for the apostle Peter (Acts 12:12).

Mark identifies Jesus as the Son sent by God "not to be served but to serve and to give his life as a ransom for many" (10:45). Mark's narrative is descriptive, and he shows Jesus moving quickly from one event or encounter to another. There are elements of mystery in Mark's Gospel. Jesus' real identity was a secret during his lifetime, although demons and demoniacs knew it (1:24; 3:11, 5:7). Although Jesus tells people not to tell others about his miracles, which would reveal his identity, this admonition was not always observed (1:45, 5:19-20). Mark says that Jesus teaches by parables in a way that those "outside" the kingdom do not understand.

The five senses—touch, taste, smell, hearing, sight—are the ways the body

receives information about the world around us.

- What sense is most acute for you?
- What sense would you most not want to lose?

Today's Gospel

When Jesus and his disciples arrived at Bethsaida, people brought to him a blind man and begged Jesus to touch him. He took the blind man by the hand and led him outside the village. Putting spittle on his eyes he laid his hands on the man and asked, "Do you see anything?" Looking up the man replied, "I see people looking like trees and walking." Then he laid hands on the man's eyes a second time and he saw clearly; his sight was restored and he could see everything distinctly. Then he sent him home and said, "Do not even go into the village."

MARK 8:22-26



"Jesus Healing the Man Born Blind" by Lawrence OP is licensed under CC BY-NC-ND 2.0.
To view a copy of this license, visit <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc-nd/2.0/?ref=openverse>.

Reflection

Jesus is the Word made flesh, a man who shares with all of us everything about what it means to be human. In Mark's Gospel, we see Jesus knowing his world and relating to others—as we do—through his senses. In today's reading

He took the blind man by the hand and led him outside the village
He put spit on the man's eyes
He laid his hands on the man

He laid hands on the man's eyes a second time

Imagine yourself as the blind man. How do you respond to Jesus holding your hand? Touching your eyes? Putting spit on your eyes?

Jesus responded to people (friends?) who brought the blind man to Jesus and begged him to touch him.

Who are the friends that bring you to Jesus? Who prays for you?

The restoration of sight in this story takes place in two parts. Initially, when Jesus asks the blind man, "Do you see anything?" the man says, "I see people looking like trees and walking." After Jesus had laid his hands on the man's eyes a second time, "he saw clearly."

When has it taken you time to "see" something more clearly? What helped that clarifying process?

For Prayer

Being aware of our world through our senses is a way of becoming aware of "God in all things."

Sit quietly, be aware of your breathing, of the sounds around you, of the "feel" of the air, of any smells in your environment.

How does this "speak" to you of God?

Say a prayer of gratitude for your senses.

If you enjoy reading our reflections and would like to make a donation towards this ministry, click the button below!

Support CSD



Center for
Spiritual
Development

COMPANIONS ON THE
SACRED JOURNEY



[Visit Website](#)

[714-744-3172](tel:714-744-3172)

[Join Mailing
List](#)



To “Unsubscribe” from the daily reflections while remaining on our general mailing list, please [email us](#). The unsubscribe function below will unsubscribe you from all emails from CSD. Please know we will never share your information.

Center for Spiritual Development | 434 A South Batavia Street | Orange, CA 92868 US

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)