



Daily Reflections

October 28, 2018

Scripture

Mark 10: 46-52

As Jesus was leaving Jericho with his disciples and a sizable crowd, Bartimaeus, a blind man, the son of Timaeus, sat by the roadside begging.

On hearing that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to cry out and say,

"Jesus, son of David, have pity on me."

And many rebuked him, telling him to be silent.

But he kept calling out all the more,

"Son of David, have pity on me."

Jesus stopped and said, "Call him."

So they called the blind man, saying to him,

"Take courage; get up, Jesus is calling you."

He threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus.

Jesus said to him in reply, "What do you want me to do for you?"

The blind man replied to him, "Master, I want to see."

Jesus told him, "Go your way; your faith has saved you."

Immediately he received his sight and followed him on the way.

Our Scripture Reflection

What a childlike and pathetic plea the blind man makes to Jesus. In the New Testament "blindness" is a metaphor often used for lack of faith. Conversely, "sight" or "seeing" is a metaphor used for faith. What's interesting in today's Gospel story is that while Bartimaeus is physically blind he has profound faith in Jesus illustrated in his use for Jesus of the Messianic title, "Son of David." Because of his humble faith, Barimaeus is given physical sight so that he can see his way to use his spiritual sight to witness to Jesus on the road.

Food for your Journey

A mother who posted a picture of her daughter on Facebook got more than just a few likes after users spotted something in the photo that helped identify a rare disease.

Tara Taylor from Tennessee took a snap of her 3-year-old daughter, Rylee, and put it on the social network.

When two friends were randomly browsing through the site, they saw the image, in which Rylee's left eye was glowing.

Most people would have assumed this was simply an effect of the camera's flash and moved on, but, luckily, these eagle-eyed friends knew something was up and got in touch.

After taking her daughter to the doctor, Rylee was diagnosed with Coats' disease -- a rare condition that can cause blindness or loss of vision, outcomes which can be prevented if the condition is caught early ... in this case, sharing turned into caring to help save a little girl's vision.

--"Little girl's vision saved by eagle-eyed Facebook users," New York Post, April 3, 2014. <http://nypost.com>. Retrieved April 15, 2015.

A Prayer from the Heart

Dear Jesus, Thank You for the gift of faith with which You have blessed me. Help me, Lord, to witness to my faith in You as did Bartimaeus. May I draw people to You so that they, too, can learn to live the way of Your Gospel. Amen