



# Daily Reflections

**December 7, 2018**

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## Scripture

### **Matthew 9: 27-31**

As Jesus passed by, two blind men followed him, crying out,  
"Son of David, have pity on us!"

When he entered the house,  
the blind men approached him and Jesus said to them,  
"Do you believe that I can do this?"

"Yes, Lord," they said to him.

Then he touched their eyes and said,

"Let it be done for you according to your faith."

And their eyes were opened.

Jesus warned them sternly,

"See that no one knows about this."

But they went out and spread word of him through all that land.

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## Our Scripture Reflection

To be blind in Jesus' day meant almost always to be a beggar. There were no government benefits, no social services for the blind. To make matters worse, to be blind was looked upon as a curse from God. Why else would God cause one to be blind if one was not a terrible sinner? Loneliness, destitution, abandonment, were all a part of a blind man's daily existence. But the blind men in today's Gospel were different. Though they were blind, they had faith in Jesus as the "Son of David", something His own disciples had not

acknowledged. That was enough for Jesus to act on their behalf. Because they have faith and trust in Him, their faith is blessed with physical sight. What a gift!

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## **Food for your Journey**

The mark of maturity in our prayer life is when our prayers are fundamentally changed from "Give me ..." to "Make me ..."

"Give me" prayers are childlike. They treat God like a cosmic vending machine delivering goodies when we insert a coin -- our prayer -- into the slot.

"Make me" prayers are for grown-up Christians. They acknowledge the ways we fall short. They ask God to transform us, so we can be better disciples.

"Lord, make me a better husband, a better wife. Help me love my partner as Christ loves the church."

"Lord, make me a better parent. Make me, through adversity and experience, patient and understanding. Help me by following the example of your life, to model faithful living."

"Lord, you have placed a difficult challenge before me, but I trust that you wish only the best for me. I lean on your strength to provide what I need to rise to the occasion."

"God, may I be more like Christ."

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## **A Prayer from the Heart**

Dear Jesus, Just when I feel strong and good about my faith, my mind entertains doubts. Lord, never allow me to become frightened or to give up when this happens. Lift me over those bumps in the road. May I keep my eyes, my heart and my mind focused on You. May I have the peace that comes from knowing You walk with me at all times. Amen