

Blindness

A Lord's Flock General Assembly Topic

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We all need light to know where we are going. The eyes in our body see the physical things around us. However, we also need to open the “eyes of our soul” to be able to see what is essential, what gives true meaning to our lives, and to see Jesus around us. When we read the Bible, we need to do two things: to be involved and to ask ourselves: “What is Jesus telling us? What is meaningful to us, specifically?” Hence, blindness is focusing mainly on worldly affairs, but the light (healing) of Christ greatly removes the blindness in our eyes.

Lessons from “The Blind Bartimaeus” (Mark 10: 46- 52)

1. Bartimaeus was just sitting by the roadside.
 - 1.1. Jesus does not want us to be idly sitting by, feeling hopeless and with no strength.
2. When Jesus passed by, Bartimaeus experienced hope and determination. He knew Jesus, the son of David, would be his Savior, and he begged for His pity.
 - 2.1. While his eyes were blind, his soul recognized that Jesus is love.
3. The crowd rebuked him to be silent, but he was not silenced. He shouted all the more for Jesus to have pity on Him.
 - 3.1. We must not give up.
4. Jesus called Bartimaeus to come to Him.
 - 4.1. Jesus wants us to go to Him as a sign of our love for Him. He does not force us to go to Him. His message to us is to take courage and go to Him.
5. Bartimaeus threw aside his cloak and went to Jesus.
 - 5.1. When we go to Jesus, we must leave everything else behind (our heavy burdens, problems, struggles, etc.).
6. Jesus said: “what do you want me to do for you?” Why was Jesus even asking? He wanted Bartimaeus himself to say what he needed.
 - 6.1. It is important that we verbalize our thoughts, our prayers, our love for Jesus.

7. Bartimaeus wanted to see. Jesus healed his physical blindness, and he was healed by his faith. He became a follower of Jesus.
8. Jesus’ healing is always double. The healing of the body is only the sign of a deeper healing that is more important, which is the healing of the soul.
 - 8.1. We need to look at others not just with our eyes, but with the eyes of Jesus.
 - 8.2. We need to see beyond external appearances, and really see the soul of the person – his needs, motivations, and his being.

Conclusion:

Let us change the way we look at the world. Everyday, Jesus sends us many opportunities to spread love. However, we are often blind and we fail to see these opportunities. We need to ask Jesus to open the “eyes of our soul” and to be like Him to the people around us. Let us have more patience, be forgiving, be kind, and to show our love to others.

Reflection:

Reflect on what happened today. What were the opportunities that you somehow missed to pay attention to others: to smile, to help?

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