



ARCHDIOCESE OF PALO-CATECHETICAL MINISTRY
Module 60 (October 24, 2021) 30th Sunday in Ordinary Time- Cycle B
Theme: Jesus Heals our Blindness
Mark 10:46-52
World Mission Sunday



INTRODUCTION

Have you ever wondered why sometimes it is so difficult to follow the Lord?

Lead the members of the group to realize that following and obeying God becomes difficult when one is too much preoccupied of self and thus forget God. Today's Sunday reading shows us how Jesus heals the blind man. What could this story mean for us now?



OPENING PRAYER

God, our Father
 We thank you for this new day
 We ask you to bless each one of us
 As we read your holy Word.
 Jesus, our Savior
 May your saving love gets deeper
 Into our hearts
 Open our ears to listen to your message
 Through your Holy Word
 Holy Spirit, our guide and light
 Inspire us to preserve
 In our love for the Scripture
 So that we may always walk with
 Faith, hope and love. Amen



PHASE ONE
REMEMBER THE STORY OF JESUS

R. Alleluia, alleluia.
 Our Savior Jesus Christ destroyed death
 and brought life to light through the Gospel.
 R. Alleluia, alleluia.



A reading from the holy Gospel according to Mark (Mk 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.

1.1 Proclamation of the Gospel Story Mark 16:15-20

Enthroned the Bible on a table with lighted candle)

A moment of prayerful silence

We will not be able to understand the Word of God unless God himself opens our hearts. Let us now welcome Jesus as he speaks to us through his Word

Reader: The Gospel of the Lord

All: Praise to you. Lord Jesus Christ

1.2 Brief Guided silent Meditation / Personal Prayer

What did Bartimaeus, the blind man in the story ask Jesus?

What did Jesus do to Bartimaeus?

Text in Context

As we notice, our Sunday readings have been focused on the Gospel of Mark this year which is about to end in a few weeks' time as the Church's calendar ends. Today's Gospel is the last miracle of Jesus in Mark's and Jesus' final journey to Jerusalem for the feast of the Passover when he would suffer and die on the cross. In the previous stories, we saw how it was difficult for the disciples to understand the suffering he is about to face. We also saw how the religious leaders like the Pharisees, refused to believe in Jesus because of his humble beginning.

In our Gospel reading today, the blind man, Bartimaeus tells us how his simplicity grasp fully who Jesus is, both in mind and heart. (Loyola Press)

1. By this time, where was Jesus coming from, and who were his companions? Jesus was leaving Jericho who was with a crowd including his disciples
2. What did Bartimaeus do when he heard that Jesus was passing by? (He called out, asked Jesus to have pity on him.)
3. What was the attitude of the people upon hearing Bartimaeus calling out to Jesus?
5. Why do you think he kept on calling out to Jesus in spite of the people who were rebuking him? (Some people in the crowd are telling him to be quiet.)
6. What did Bartimaeus do? (He called out to Jesus all the more.)
7. When Jesus stopped and called for him, what did he do and say? (He restored Bartimaeus's sight; Jesus told Bartimaeus that his faith has saved him.)

**PHASE II REFLECT the Story
of the Church
(Teachings of the Church)**



Throughout Jesus' public ministry, he always journeys with the people. A lot of things happen as Jesus journeys from one place to the other. Amidst the crowd, he takes the opportunity for personal encounters with the people. Jesus meets and walks with the crowd but he sees to it that his encounter will leave space for healing and conversion. But this is up to the individual decision.

In today's Gospel reading, we can imagine Bartimaeus sitting by the side of the road, waiting for Jesus. Perhaps he had been here for hours or even days for that moment when Jesus would pass by. So, as soon as Jesus arrived, he called him at the top of his voice in spite of the crowd asking him to be quiet. Two times, Bartimaeus cried out: *Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me!*

Bartimaeus is blind yet he recognizes who Jesus is. He calls out Jesus as the Son of David. Jesus is the liberator who will free the people from all forms of suffering. He comes from the descendants of David. The Son of David is similar to the Messiah. He sees in him as the bringer of hope for the people with infirmities like him who have no sight.

The crowd who had been annoyed by his plea to Jesus called him at Jesus' command.

Bartimaeus threw aside his cloak, sprang up, and came to Jesus. What rejoicing! He was sure his sight would be restored. True enough, Jesus' brief encounter with him gave him double healing. He could see with his physical eyes and at the same time could experience God's mercy and love. These are the eyes of faith that allow the truth of God to get deep into one's heart.

The First Reading (Jer 31:7-9) points to the joy of those whose hope is the Lord. We know that the people of Israel were once taken to Babylon as captives. It was only after 50 years when they returned to their homeland, Israel, to be free. They were full of joy as they came back home. The people were punished because of their sins which made them blind. They failed to see the true God and themselves as a people chosen by God. But God has never forgotten them. God brings them back to their land and forgot all their sins.

*Shout with joy for Jacob,
exult at the head of the nations;
proclaim your praise and say:
The LORD has delivered his people (Jer: 31:7)*

We may see with good eyesight and yet we could be blind. When do we allow ourselves to be blinded by self-love and forget others?
When do we seem to be proud of what we can do and forget God's action in us?
Are we happy to be in this situation?

Let us look at what is happening in our world today One may accept and do things according to what others commonly do while some easily follow the false god dictated on them.

There are many forms of blindness in our community and in society such as fake news, trolls, corruption, indecent

words and behavior, lack of forgiveness, love for honor and position, lack of concern to the poor, and many others. What is my attitude toward all those issues that destroy the dignity of persons?

For example, Archbishop Socrates Villegas said: *if you don't know how to get angry at the corruption, at the money that should be given to the poor but goes to the pocket of the powerful people, then something is wrong with your [faith] Christianity. The evil triumph when good men do nothing,*

**PHASE THREE RESPOND – with/ in my personal
faith /community faith story**

Let us allow Jesus to heal our blindness (or sinfulness) as individuals, as a nation, and as a global community. *Let us say to Jesus. Lord, I want to see. Take away all that blind me from seeing my true identity as a person. Son of David, have pity on me.*

What concrete actions can you do to keep yourself away from being blind so that you may see clearly what God wants?



CLOSING PRAYER

It is only when we can see the truth about ourselves and God that we will be able to follow Jesus to take part in his mission. We need not know all about the bible or many things about what believe in order to be missionary disciples of Jesus. When Bartimaeus was healed Jesus told him, *"Go your way; your faith has saved you."*

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

One's experience of God's love and mercy is powerful enough to be a missionary: *God loves me. He wants me to share his love with many who have not known him.*

Let us be united to all missionaries here and far who are continuing the works of Christ. We celebrate today World Mission Sunday

-Heavenly Father, when Jesus rose from the dead, he commissioned his followers to go and make disciples of all nations and you remind us to that through our Baptism we are made to share in the mission of the Church.

-Empower us by the gifts of the Holy Spirit in bearing witness to the Gospel.

- Help us make it possible for all people to experience the saving love and mercy of Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, One God. forever and ever. Amen.

BACKGROUND FOR THE CATECHISTS

CCC 1850 Sin is an offense against God: "Against you, you alone, have I sinned, and done that which is evil in your sight." Sin sets itself against God's love for us and turns our hearts away from it. Like the first sin, it is disobedience, a revolt against God through the will to become "like gods," knowing and determining good and evil. Sin is thus "love of oneself even to contempt of God." In this proud self-exaltation, sin is diametrically opposed to the obedience of Jesus, which achieves our salvation.

CCC 1846 The Gospel is the revelation in Jesus Christ of God's mercy to sinners. The angel announced to Joseph: "You shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." The same is true of the Eucharist, the sacrament of redemption: "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

