

“What do you want me to do for you?” Jesus asked. “My Rabbi, ” the blind man said, “I want to see!”
Mark 10:51 NLT

lectio // Mark 10:46-52

Jackpot! Lotto winner! Bartimaeus (son of Timaeus), gets his moment. His name, his story is written. Up to point before this short interaction with Jesus, he's known as blind, but he'll be dropping that reputation pretty quick - formerly blind maybe (aren't we all)? He's heard that Jesus would be around and coming near and he cries for mercy. People try to shoosh him, but he cries louder. Then Jesus comes over and asks the BIG question, “what do you want?” Does this sound familiar? Doesn't John record a story of a no name man lounging by the pools of Bethesda? A man who had been paralyzed for thirty eight years? Jesus also asks him a similar question, “do you want to get well?” Bartimaeus was ready to answer, “I want to see!” Am I even ready for that kind of question should God ask me? Do you want to, or what do you want? Let me just be straightforward - what do I want? I may spend days or even weeks asking God, “what are you up to” or “show me how I can be with you, for you instead of against you.” But am I prepared when God hears me and turns to ask the question? I want to be ready like former blind Bart with a really clear answer.

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Dad,

If you're asking, my answer is “I want us, the Church, to be one even as you are one.” I want us to be known for our love for you and each other. I want us to be known for our care for each other and clarity of mission for the broken. I want us to be known for peace in a pandemic, generosity in recession and caring in chaos. I want to be solid, aware and quickly responsive not reactive.

contemplatio

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root