

Do You Believe?

Friday, December 5, 2014
1st Week of Advent



The blind men approached him and Jesus said to them, “Do you believe that I can do this?” Then he touched their eyes and said, “Let it be done for you according to your faith.” And their eyes were opened. Matthew 9: 27-29)

The two blind men in today’s gospel had to work at getting Jesus’ attention. It seems to me they had to prove their desire to see by crying out for Jesus’ mercy and they did not give up—as they followed him right into the house. In turn, Jesus posed a crucial question to them: “Do you believe that I can do this?” Mind you, that in other gospel stories, Jesus heals blindness with spittle and dirt; but here he uses the depth of the individual’s own faith and the passionate power that came through his own hands for the fruition of this miracle.

As I sit with this gospel story and pray about the challenge of blindness, a realization emerges for me—this story isn’t really just about physical blindness. We all have areas of blindness that should cause us to call out: “Jesus, Son of David, have pity on me”! We visualize with our minds and with our hearts, and in doing so we can be blind to a bigger or different situation, blind to the needs of others, blind to the “cry” of those people around us who experience a need of some sort.

Reflection:

Where do I experience blindness in my life?

How am I living in darkness that causes blindness in my response/behavior?

What blindness do I need to ask Jesus to heal?

Do I have faith enough to allow Jesus to touch the eyes of my mind and heart to heal the blindness I harbor?

Prayer:

Jesus, light of the world, help me to see!

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