



(Food for thought: Gospel: Mark 10: 46-52.)

## **“I want to see”**

A profound and abiding sense of joy is the hallmark of a person whose faith in Jesus is authentic. This does not mean some sort of superficial and momentary happiness. Nor does it imply an attitude of escapism from the presence of pain and suffering in human experience. But it does mean that our trust in God is not shaken in the face of evil. We are always aware of the presence of the Spirit that permeates our minds and hearts with joy. That joy generates strength and hope, courage and peace.

Like Bartimaeus - the blind beggar of the Gospel - our limited vision so often lets us see only our vulnerability and our limitations. Our spiritual blindness to the Gospel message often causes us to

ignore the responsibility that we each have to become instruments of healing, so that through us the Word-Made-Flesh can lead our society out of its culture of death into a culture of life.

These are the times when we need to recall the image of Jesus and Bartimaeus; these are the times when we need find comfort in the words of Jeremiah: "Shout with joy for Jacob, exult at the head of the nations; proclaim your praise and say: The LORD has delivered his people, the remnant of Israel." Whenever we are brought low by physical or spiritual infirmity, we must believe in resurrection. These are times when - like Bartimaeus - we need to cry out 'Lord I want to see.'



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