


	Jesus heals a blind near Jericho	
Presence of God	Considering how God looks at me.	
History Mark 10, 46 – 52	<p>⁴⁶ They reached Jericho; and as he left Jericho with his disciples and a great crowd, Bartimaeus – that is, the son of Timaeus – a blind beggar, was sitting at the side of the road.</p> <p>⁴⁷ When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout and cry out, 'Son of David, Jesus, have pity on me.'</p> <p>⁴⁸ And many of them scolded him and told him to keep quiet, but he only shouted all the louder, 'Son of David, have pity on me.'</p> <p>⁴⁹ Jesus stopped and said, 'Call him here.' So they called the blind man over. 'Courage,' they said, 'get up; he is calling you.'</p> <p>⁵⁰ So throwing off his cloak, he jumped up and went to Jesus.</p> <p>⁵¹ Then Jesus spoke, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'Rabbuni, let me see again.'</p> <p>⁵² Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has saved you.' And at once his sight returned and he followed him along the road.</p>	
Petition	<i>Lord, may I know you more clearly, love you more deeply and follow you more nearly!</i>	
Contemplation	<p>v 46 Putting ourselves in the blind’s shoes <i>Have you ever met a blind person? Nowadays, blind people study and do lots of things; but back in Jesus’ times, they couldn’t study or work. Do you know how they earned their living? They were beggars. Is it nice to be a beggar? Some people are born blind, so they have never had the chance to see how beautiful colors or nature are; whereas some others become blind or see very little due to a disease or an accident. Try to imagine that you are blind, that you cannot work or go to places on our own... Imagine that you have lots of limitations and you have to beg for food... how do you feel? Let’s close our eyes and imagine this reality...</i></p> <p>vv 47 – 51 The blind hopes for a miracle <i>This blind beggar had spent his whole life thinking that he would die blind... but he had most probably heard about Jesus, a good man who did good to everyone and healed the sick. What may this blind have thought? What was his wish? ... Of course!!! He hoped for Jesus to come to his town and heal him someday. It was his only hope because he could not travel to meet Jesus. One day, he suddenly heard a stir and asked ... what’s happening? What is this fuss all about? Someone said: Jesus is here!!! Can you imagine this beggar’s reaction? He was so happy that he started shouting “Jesus, Jesus”; and suddenly Jesus stopped and said “Call him here”.</i> <i>Let’s imagine ... How did the blind feel when Jesus called him? Imagine the blind walking (helped by the people) towards Jesus. When they met face to face, what did the blind tell Jesus? Let’s close our eyes and try to imagine their dialogue.</i></p> <p>vv 52 Jesus heals the blind <i>When Bartimaeus asked Jesus to heal him, Jesus was probably astonished at his faith. So it made Jesus really very happy to restore his sight. Imagine when Bartimaeus opened his eyes... What was the first thing he saw? ... Jesus. Imagine what he felt when he saw the colors, shapes, people, the faces of his family, his friends for the first time? (silence) What did he tell Jesus?</i> <i>Bartimaeus didn’t want to return home; he became a follower of Jesus’.</i> <i>Imagine Bartimaeus going with his friend Jesus everywhere.</i></p>	<p>“I am the light of the world; If you follow me, you won’t have to walk in darkness, because you will have the light of life.” (John 8,12)</p> <p>Blindness is also a sign of humanity that has fallen into sin, that lives in darkness, without fully understanding reality. Jesus is the light coming into this world (John 1,9. 12,44-50) and reveals the truth about men to us.</p> <p>Through the practice of Ignatian prayer, we have the chance to see Jesus. And that is our aim when in the petition we ask “Lord, may I know you more clearly”. When we contemplate the beauty of Jesus, we fall in love with Him; and this puts us on the right track to follow Christ. Taking the road means following the Lord who said “I am the road” (John 14,6)</p>

Colloquy	<p><i>Let's sit on the carpet, on the promised land, near Jesus, to hear him in the silence of our hearts.</i></p> <p><i>Bartimaeus saw Jesus and followed him.</i></p> <p><i>Ask Jesus to give you the chance to see Him in your heart so that He may fill it with love and you can follow Him for the rest of your life.</i></p>	