

Title: Awaken the Senses: Vision

Text: Mark 8:22-26, 1 Corinthians 13:12, Ephesians 1:18

Date: October 10, 2021

WARM-UP QUESTIONS:

1. Of the five physical senses (hear, see, smell, taste, touch), which is most important to you (and that you would not prefer to lose its function)? Is there one that you could possibly do without?
2. Has anyone in your family had poor eyesight or complications with their vision? How has this affected them and impacted their daily activities?
3. When you pray for direction from God (school major, job change, or some other major decision), what kind of answer do you typically expect from God?

REFLECTION QUESTIONS:

1. Read through the story in Mark 8. What seems unusual or unsettling to you about this encounter with Jesus? What do you think the blind man might have been thinking or feeling during this incident? Would he have been satisfied if his partial vision was as far as the healing would go?
2. Take a look at the context (the verses before and after). What may be the purpose of this particular healing story? What may it be highlighting?
3. Jesus instructed the man to go straight home and not to the village? Why might Jesus have done so?
4. How do you feel if you asked Jesus for healing and he spat on you? Is this how you would have expected Jesus to respond to you?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS:

1. What is one situation that you wish you could see more clearly? What does it mean to "see with your heart"? How does faith and sight relate together in your life?
2. Note the different participants in the story - Jesus, the blind man, and some people. Who is the community around you who may be there to lead you to Jesus? How have they done so in the past? Take time to offer a prayer of thanks for these individuals.
3. Whom can you bring to Jesus? In whose life can you invite Jesus to care and bless?