

TRANSITION INTO A DEEPER JOURNEY - REFLECTION



I ask for what I desire as we begin this topic



I pray that my entire being become open to God's grace



I imagine these texts being addressed to me, and note my response

Grace: That we make the most of ourselves and see with more clarity who we are

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, 'Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!' Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, 'Son of David, have mercy on me!' Jesus stood still and said, 'Call him here.' And they called the blind man, saying to him, 'Take heart; get up, he is calling you.' So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, 'What do you want me to do for you?' The blind man said to him, 'My teacher, let me see again.' Jesus said to him, 'Go; your faith has made you well.' Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

Blind Bartimaeus Receives His Sight - Mark 10:46-52

Still, let me repeat once and twice and as many more times as I am able: I implore you, out of a desire to serve God our Lord, to do what I have said to you up to now. May His Divine Majesty never ask me one day why I did not ask you as strongly as I possibly could! The Spiritual Exercises are all the best that I have been able to think out, experience and understand in this life, both for helping somebody to make the most of themselves, as also for being able to bring advantage, help, and profit to many others. So, even if you don't feel the need for the first, you will see that they are much more helpful than you might have imagined for the second.

Letter of Ignatius, to Rev. M. Miona, November 16, 1536

"If this were not so, Jesus Christ would not say, Be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect, encouraging us to strive for what we can receive from His hand alone. It is certainly the case that he for his part is ready, if only for ours have a humility and desire capacious enough to receive His graces, and if only He can see us using well the graces we have received, and asking eagerly and lovingly for His grace"

"I have no doubt that God's generosity and love will indeed bring this about. The supreme generosity of God is so supremely eager to spread its own riches; and the eternal love, with which God wants to give us our final fulfillment, is a desire to give far greater than ours to receive.

Letter of Ignatius, to young Jesuit students, 1547, Ep. 169:495-510

QUESTIONS FOR REFLECTION

1. What practices, encounters, and experiences help you see things from new perspectives?
2. In what moments do you connect with a deeper part of you?