

YEAR OF MERCY STAFF REFLECTION 2

“WHAT DO YOU WANT ME TO DO FOR YOU?”

Prayer style: Contemplative

Suggested duration: 10 mins

WELCOME participants and invite them to sit comfortably and close their eyes for 2 minutes of silent contemplation, asking each person to invite God into his or her presence.

PLAY “Merciful as the Father” (The official theme music for the Year of Mercy) or some other preferred reflective music.

REDUCE the sound (or turn off).

INVITE the participants to keep their eyes closed. Inform them that you will read a passage from Scripture twice. The first time just listen to the words.

READ the passage at an appropriate reflective pace.

The Healing of Blind Bartimaeus (Mark 10:46-51)

As Jesus and His disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus, 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.

AFTER a brief pause for contemplation, ask the participants to now picture the scene as the passage is read the second time, placing themselves in the story. When Jesus asks the question, “what do you want me to do for you?”, answer the question as if it was asked directly to you.

READ the passage again.

This time a bit more reflectively.

FINISH the passage at the end of the question.

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THIS IS THE NAME OF OUR GOD

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ALLOW 1 minute of contemplative time then conclude with the final prayer (or the extension then final prayer).

FINAL PRAYER:

God of Divine Mercy, you are our constant companion always ready to hear our needs. Grant us the grace to have the faith to trust in your love and compassion, and to call upon you and involve you in our daily lives.

LITANY

Mary our Good Mother, Mother of Mercy ... pray for us.

St Marcellin Champagnat ... pray for us.

St Mary of the Cross ... pray for us.

And let us always remember ... to pray for one another.

Extension: Ask participants to share with one other person how the scene unfolded for them.



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