

Jesus the Healer

20/20



SERMON NOTES AUGUST 18, 2024

13th Sunday after Pentecost

Scripture: Mark 8:22-26

MARK 8:22-26 (THE MESSAGE)

²²⁻²³ They arrived at Bethsaida. Some people brought a sightless man and begged Jesus to give him a healing touch. Taking him by the hand, he led him out of the village. He put spit in the man's eyes, laid hands on him, and asked, "Do you see anything?"

²⁴⁻²⁶ He looked up. "I see men. They look like walking trees." So, Jesus laid hands on his eyes again. The man looked hard and realized that he had recovered perfect sight, saw everything in bright, twenty-twenty focus. Jesus sent him straight home, telling him, "Don't enter the village."

*Some of the questions below are adapted from James Wagner's devotional guide,
The Spiritual Heart of your Health, Upper Room Books, 2002.*

Carefully read and reread the Scripture passage. What thoughts, ideas, and questions come to you?

Name the specific illness in this story and list all the factors that seem to work together for healing.

How does this story speak to us about the need for persistence in prayer in seeking God's healing and help?

Think of a time when healing or help from God came gradually and not instantly. What did you learn? How did you feel?

Have you ever given up too soon or been satisfied with less than complete healing? Perhaps God is speaking to you and challenging you to become more assertive in exploring other options in the healing process.

Continue in conversation with God as you would engage in conversation with your best friend, remembering that you do not need to do all the talking. Allow God's gentle healing presence to touch you a second time or more.