

**“Let me see again.”**

If we had that opportunity, what would we be looking at? Would it be someone we have loved and dearly missed. Someone whose absence has left a hole in us too big for even time to fill. Perhaps it's a husband or a wife. We feel the absence of their life as we come home to an empty house. A parent. Those familiar features as we go for coffee or a drive or a visit. Perhaps they died some time ago.

Perhaps it would be a child. That smile, their beautiful grin. Perhaps a grandchild. That wriggling mass of gorgeousness.

Perhaps they live overseas and it's been a while, perhaps it will be a while longer.

**“Let me see again.”**

If we had the opportunity, what would we be looking at? Would it be a place we have loved and dearly missed. A place whose absence creates a yearning in us as big as a canyon. Perhaps it's home, a place where we are truly ourselves and have our feet planted in the earth. Perhaps it's a place we have read about and always wanted to go, and have never, as yet, been. Maybe a view we saw with someone special, and it's been something we have always wanted to see again. See those things, that site, those sights.

Perhaps we have gotten too old for travel, or simply can't afford it. Perhaps we have planned and saved and budgeted, but with all that's happening, it's just not possible, and may not be, for a while yet.

**“Let me see again.”**

If we had the opportunity, what would we be looking at? Would it be an experience we have loved and dearly missed? Maybe it's something we have longed to do and not been able to, so far. Star gazing on Great Barrier or Stewart Island. Flying over Milford Sound in a helicopter. Climbing the Eiffel Tower. Seeing the Houses of Parliament in Central London. Maybe the All Blacks or Silver Ferns in a World Cup Final.

Perhaps it would be the Rolling Stones at the Cotton Bowl in Dallas Texas. Perhaps it would be the Metropolitan Opera's production of Porgy and Bess in Manhattan. Liverpool at Anfield or Manchester United at Old Trafford.

Perhaps, we would like to go back two years, to a time before all this. When things were normal. Whatever it is, it may not be possible ... for a while yet.

**“Let me see again.”**

If we had the opportunity, what would we be looking at? Would it be some knowledge we gained or needed or would like? Maybe it's the spark of an idea to solve a business problem. That one insight that will get everything moving. Perhaps the solution to a family conundrum, the right pieces of the puzzle that makes everything turn out ok. Perhaps the means to put a friendship back on course, the intuition to just know the right thing to do and be, in that tense and frayed relationship.

Perhaps a lightbulb moment that enables us to change, to look at something, someone, some people in a different way, to be able to see them and everything more clearly. Whatever it is, it may not be possible ... for a while yet.

**“Let me see again.”**

We always assume that the man in this Jesus story wants to “literally” see again. And that may very well be true, but I’ve often wondered about the “again” in this text. Now that he was blind, what was it that he had missed? Was it the faces of those he loved? Was it the places that he had lived and been and seen? Was it the experiences he had had as a child, or young person, or an adult, in those years before he lost his sight? ...

Or, was it the deep knowledge that even with seeing eyes, he might still be blind to the teacher who stood in front of him, with the proclamation of the Good News, that the Kingdom of God has come near!

The deep knowledge that even with seeing eyes, he might still be blind to the Teachers words, “Your faith has made you well.”

And then, still too blind to see, that he must, “rise up and follow him.”

Lord, help us all ...

**“Let us, see, again.”**

Amen.