



LIVE IN THE DARK OR IN THE LIGHT

Slide 1

Slide 2 The shows, **Slide 3** the big games, **Slide 4** the parades, you like it, when there is **Slide 5** a lot of people, the noise, **Slide 6** flashes of lights of all colors. **Slide 7** Do you also like those times when you are with **Slide 8** someone you particularly appreciate, **Slide 9** your father, your mother, your sister? **Slide 10** It feels good; **Slide 11** it looks like time has stood still.

Slide 12 We are going to tell each other lots of things or maybe just **Slide 13** a few words but we are relaxed, reassured. At that moment, we know that we are very important for the other as the He is important for us too, this is a special time.

This is what **Slide 14** Jesus did one day with a man who could see nothing.

You will find this in the **Slide 15** Gospel of Mark, chapter 8.

Listen, **Slide 16** something amazing is going to happen.

Slide 17 THIS MAN IS BLIND, WHAT IS JESUS GOING TO DO?

Slide 18 Just imagine the life of this man who has always been **Slide 19** in the dark, a bit like an **Slide 20** endless night, or **Slide 21** a house without windows, or **Slide 22** a city without lights.

How would you describe **Slide 23** a nectar-gathering bee?

How would you tell him that **Slide 24** the mountain is covered with snow or that **Slide 25** the sunset is reflecting in the calm waters of the lake?

Slide 26 Red, green, blue...

What does that mean to him?

How can he avoid **Slide 27** that rock or that hole in the way?

The life **Slide 28** of this man is very complicated, he can neither read, nor write, nor work. If he wants to move, He brings someone to guide him.

Slide 29 In Bethsaida, where he was living, we have known him since he was little. He has been laughed at and spoken to brutally. **Slide 30** Some are doing everything they can to help him, but no one can really change his life and restore his sight.

Slide 31 That day, Jesus and his disciples arrived in Bethsaida. When we heard about the coming of Jesus, obviously, we think of this man. **Slide 32** Some friends would go get him:

Slide 33 - Come on, we will take you to Jesus. Everywhere he goes, he heals the sick, he performs unbelievable miracles, **Slide 34** we will ask him to heal you, come on and we will go with you.

The blind man has agreed, so here they are on their way. **Slide 35** They are already imagining Jesus laying his hands down on him and heal him.

While Jesus was arriving, they said:

Slide 36 - Please Jesus, look at this man, he is blind. We brought him so that **Slide 37** you can lay hands on him and heal him.

Slide 38 Jesus hasn't done anything.

He has not answered, but he took the blind man by the hand and **Slide 39** started to walk with him. **Slide 40** People were surprised seeing them walking away. Some may have whispered:

Slide 41 - But why didn't Jesus answer their prayer? Why didn't he heal this man?

Slide 42 He usually doesn't do it like that!

Slide 43 They walked a long way together, Jesus leading the blind man.

Did they talk during this trip? Did Jesus have something to tell him? Did the blind man have any questions? Did he need to see clearer in his heart, in his thoughts? Did he feel uncomfortable among the others? He who was often despised?

The story does not tell us, but this man lived **Slide 44** a very special moment. Jesus left everyone else in order to take care of him alone and that is deeply touching.

He didn't know where he was going to, but whatever, **Slide 45** Jesus was holding his hand.

Now that they are **Slide 46** outside the village, Jesus is stopping.

He is wetting **Slide 47** his fingers with saliva and put his fingers on **Slide 48** the blind's eyes.

He is laying hands on him. **Slide 49** Then he said:

- Can you see anything?

The man was carefully looking around:

Slide 50 - Yes, I am seeing men but I'm seeing them **Slide 51** as walking trees.

Slide 52 Jesus is putting his hands again on his eyes:

Slide 53 - And now?

Slide 54 The man is staring at him:

Slide 55 - Yes! This time I can see perfectly!

Slide 56 He could clearly see everything that was surrounding him, the stones on the path,

Slide 57 the trees, **Slide 58** the flowers, **Slide 59** his hands, his clothing but also the **Slide 60**

the fields far away, **Slide 61** the birds, **Slide 62** the colors, **Slide 63** the village over there on the horizon.

He also discovered **Slide 64** the face full of kindness of the one who has just performed this great miracle toward him.

He now **Slide 65** understands his life has completely changed, it will never be the same again; he is came out from the night and now he's **Slide 66** in the light. The light around him but also in his heart. This man who has just opened his eyes, **Slide 67** isn't he the one sent by God?

Slide 68 1, 2 3, 4 AND YOU AND ME!

*Maybe one day **Slide 69** you will be amazed too and you will not understand what Jesus is doing, or what he's not doing as you would like. So, **Slide 70** remember this story, it will encourage you to keep trusting him. You and I, we do not know everything. We do not see beyond **Slide 71** the tip of our nose. But **Slide 72** He knows everything, nothing is hidden from him, he can guide us.*

*I encourage you to take a little moment every day **Slide 73** to talk to him, to pray and thank him, but also to listen to what he tells you in your heart, he will watch over you.*

*Personally, I really enjoy those times when I'm all alone with him. **Slide 74** What about you?*

Slide 75 4, 3, 2, 1 AND WE PARENTS!

*Like this blind man, you may have been healed by Jesus, not **Slide 76** instantly but **Slide 77** gradually. **Slide 78** God's actions are very diverse, which reminds us of **Slide 79** his sovereignty.*

Whether instantly or gradually, it is always a great encouragement to us and those around us when we see the power of God manifesting in our body.

*And what a great miracle as well, when **Slide 80** the light of the Gospel comes and guide our hearts; that's all our life and our family's which are illuminated.*

*We can encourage our children **Slide 81** to have their personal moment of prayer with Jesus; therefore, they will get to know him.*

Slide 82