**Meditation: Know Yourself**

(about 10 minutes)

PURPOSE:

* To recognize the anxiety of the participants in a new setting and their concerns about what is going to happen.
* To assist the participants to accept in a positive way, the silence and self reflection of their first night.

CORE IDEAS:

* We need peace and quiet.
* We need clear sight.
* We need to see who we are, where we are going, and God’s purpose for our lives.

INTRODUCTION:

1. This meditation is based on the Gospel of Mark 8:22-26.
2. Are we blind to God’s presence and blind to the joy of living?
3. Can we see our own blindness? Can we admit our blindness?
4. Let us be still and let God be God.

THE BLIND MAN WAS BROUGHT BY FRIENDS: (See Mark 8:22)

1. Please trust your friends who have brought you here.
2. These friends care about you and they have experienced the restoration of clear sight on their Weekend.
3. We ask you to trust your friends and all of us on this Weekend.

JESUS TOOK THE BLIND MAN AND LED HIM ASIDE: (See Mark 8:23)

1. The reason we have come here this Weekend is to be with Christ away from the busyness of our world.
2. Please trust the One concerned with the blind man. He is concerned with you also.
3. The Lord will meet us where we are.
4. He met the blind man and did not pressure him. Neither will you be pressured.

THE MAN REGAINED HIS SIGHT GRADUALLY: (See Mark 8:24)

1. This Weekend is a process that unfolds step by step. Please reserve your judgment until the end.
2. No specific response is required of you. The blind man could only see gradually at first.
3. The blind man’s experience was his own and your experience will be yours alone.
4. We encourage you to share yourself, your gifts, and your insights.
5. Share your judgment at the end.

THE SECOND TOUCH: (See Mark 8:25-26)

1. Jesus stayed with the blind man until his sight was restored.
2. Do not look for a single touch this Weekend.
3. The healing was not one-sided. Just as it involved the presence of Jesus and the faith of the blind man, so it can be for you.
4. Jesus touched the man a second time, and you too may want to take a fresh look at yourself.

CONCLUSION:

* This is your opportunity to look at the priorities in your life, what you are living for, and be present with the Lord who is present and accepts you.