

Sight for the Blind – John 9



MEMORY VERSE: Jesus said, “As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world... For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind.” John 9:5 and 39

DAY 1 JOHN 9:1-5 — Revealing the Works of God

1. What assumption did the disciples make? v.1
2. The disciples false assumption was likely based on Exodus 20:5,6 in the 10 commandments. What do you think God meant in those verses?
3. What hope does Jesus offer for anyone born with a defect? v.2
4. What further hope is there for anyone with any kind of disadvantage or weakness? 1 Corinthians 1:26-31
5. How does Jesus’ statement, “This is the *work* of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent,” (6:29) tie in with His words about *work* in vv.3-5?

LEARN THE TRUTH

Jesus, the Light of the World, continues His message of bringing light into darkness by healing a man who was born blind. As you study this chapter, ask God to open your eyes and give you true sight so you can not only understand the deep spiritual truths that give life, but offer others that same hope.

DAY 2 JOHN 9:6-7 — Jesus Heals the Man who was Born Blind

6. How did Jesus heal the blind man? Do you see any significance to His method? vv.6-7

7. Jot down the unique details of how Jesus healed people in the 3 following passages:
Matthew 9:18-26

Luke 17:11-19

John 4:46-54

8. What do these, and other, various healings tell you about God's character and ways?
9. What insight does this give you into your own beliefs, practices or experiences?

DAY 3 JOHN 9:8-23 — Deliberation and Denial

10. What might account for the neighbor's different perceptions regarding the blind man's sight? vv.8-13
11. Do you see any significant differences between the accounts the man gave regarding his healing?
To his neighbors vv.11-12
- To the Pharisees v.15
12. What reasons might there be as to why Jesus performed so many healings on the Sabbath? vv.16-17

13. How does Mark 7:6-9 describe the Pharisees actions and way of thinking?

14. Why did the Pharisees interrogate the parents of the blind man who had been healed? vv.18,19

15. What impression do you get from the man's parents? vv.20-23

DAY 4

JOHN 9:24-34 — Deception and Disgust

16. What do you think the Pharisees expected when they told the healed man to “give glory to God?”
v.24

17. Did he give glory to God? If so, how? vv.25-27

18. Compare the actions of the Pharisees with those of the man who could now see. vv.28-34
Pharisees vv.28-29, 34 (and v.2)

Man with sight vv.30-33

19. Why would a man, blind his whole life, progress in understanding so quickly when healed?

20. What do you imagine life would be like for those who were forbidden to enter the Synagogue?

21. How was the healed blind man blessed for his honesty and bravery with the Pharisees? vv.35-38

22. What is your understanding of Jesus' statement in verse 39?

23. How does Jesus' statement (v.39) confirm what He said in John 3:16-17?

24. What did Jesus mean by His response when the Pharisees said, "Are we also blind?" vv.40-41

Proverbs 28:13

Matthew 9:12-13

25. How has God spoken to you personally through the Scriptures included in this lesson?

LOVE THE TRUTH

Without Jesus we are all blind, and so human opinions dictate our beliefs. It is a blessed relief when we realize we are sick and blind and recognize that God is ready and more than able to give us sight. Every day is rewarding when we allow the Light of the World to open our eyes to truth and life.

John 9

Sight for the Blind

When Jesus saw people unable to help themselves, He reacted with compassion and healing. His goal was to do the work of God, to open their eyes so they could see and believe in Him. We live in a fallen world. Sin came into the world through one man, Adam, and the result is condemnation and death. But then one man, Jesus Christ, brought grace into the world and the result is justification and life. (Romans 5:12;18) When Jesus saw the man who was born blind, the real question was not whose sin caused his blindness, but rather Who God is, and how He might display His works in that blind man. And God did indeed display His power through this healing. Jesus “spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva. He anointed the man’s eyes with the mud and said to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means sent). So he went, washed and came back seeing.” (9:6-7) Can you relate to this miracle? Like the man born blind, our deficiencies and limitations are the very things God uses to show us our need for Him and to glorify Himself through us. In the midst of our struggles, He anoints our eyes, sends us to be washed, heals us and gives us sight so we can believe and be useful for service. He will display His works in us when we believe in Him.

The man born blind could not see Jesus, but Jesus saw him. God used his life of blindness to prepare him to meet Jesus. This man went from having no idea who Jesus was, to seeing Him as a prophet, to believing in Him as Lord. He did not seek after Jesus, but Jesus sought him out. The healed man shared only what he knew to be true, his simple story of how he went from blindness to sight. He did not pretend to know more than he did, but he grew in knowledge and conviction as he took one step at a time in faith, beginning with washing in the pool of Siloam when Jesus sent him.

There will always be opposition for the one sent out by God. Because of their hatred of Jesus, the Pharisees stepped up their game by agreeing that anyone who

confessed Jesus to be Christ, would be put out of the synagogue. They closed the doors to those who did not side with them, making them outcasts. Sadly, many would not risk such loss. “The fear of man lays a snare, but whoever trusts in the Lord is safe.” (Proverbs 29:25) When we trust in Him, and stand firm one step at a time, we grow stronger. Likewise, those who are evil become even more so with each step they take. “The path of the righteous is like the light of dawn, which shines brighter and brighter until full day. The way of the wicked is like deep darkness; they do not know over what they stumble.” (Proverbs 4:18-19)

WALK IN TRUTH



Do you have a physical problem or some weakness that cripples you emotionally? Do you feel defeated, useless, or forgotten? You may not see God in your circumstances, but He sees you. You are not forgotten. There is no formula for healing, but God heals. Our job is to focus on the character and power of God. He will display His mighty works through us when we surrender to Him and take Him at His word. He does His best work through weak people who trust Him as He did in the healed blind man who stood up to the Pharisees and said, “Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a man born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing.” (vv.32,33) The Bible does not say more about this man who was healed, but because he said, “Lord, I believe” and worshipped Him, to this day God is using his simple testimony to help others see the Light of the World. He will do this through you too as you look for Him and trust in Him.

Notes