

132. Jesus Heals a Blind Man (John 9:1-7, 24-41)

Prayer: Heavenly Father, thank You for giving us faith so we can see Jesus is our Savior. Please give spiritual sight to all people, so they can believe in Jesus also. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

John 9:1-3. Jesus was walking in Jerusalem. He saw a man who was blind. The man was already blind when he was born. Jesus' disciples asked, "Teacher, why is he blind? Did his parents sin and make him blind, or did he sin?" Jesus answered, "This man is not blind because he sinned or his parents sinned. He is blind because God wanted to do a wonderful work through him."

- Why did the disciples think the man was blind? What did they think happened?
- What did Jesus answer? Was the man blind because of someone's sin?
- What do some deaf people say about why they are deaf? (Their hearing parents must have done what to a deaf person?) What would Jesus say about that? Why are you deaf?

John 9:4-7. Jesus said, "The Father sent Me to work. While it is daytime, we must do that work. Night is coming; then no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light for the world." Jesus spit in the dirt. He made some mud and put the mud on the man's eyes. Jesus told the blind man, "Go and wash in the pool named Siloam." (Siloam means "sent.") The man went, washed his eyes, and could see.

- God the Father sent Jesus to work during the daytime. Jesus doesn't mean while the sun is up. Jesus means something else by "day" and "night." When is the "daytime" and "night?" (hint – Jesus says He is the light for the world.)
- What work did Jesus do now for the blind man?

John 9:24-25. (We are skipping some verses. After Jesus healed the man, the Jewish leaders tried to find out who healed the blind man and how.) The Jewish leaders called the man again (the man who was blind before). The leaders said, “Give glory to God and tell us the truth about Jesus. We know He is a sinner.” The man answered, “If He is a sinner or not, I don’t know. I do know one thing. Before, I was blind. Now I can see.”

- What did the Jewish leaders think about Jesus? Did they want to glorify God?
- The (formerly) blind man gave the best witness he could give. What did he say?

John 9:26-29. The Jewish leaders asked the man, “What did Jesus do? How did He open your eyes?” The man answered, “I already told you. You didn’t listen. Why do you want me to tell you again? Do you want to become Jesus’ disciples?” The leaders became angry and said, “You are Jesus’ disciple. But we follow Moses. We know God spoke to Moses. But we don’t know where Jesus is from.”

- The Jewish leaders already asked about the miracle, and the man already answered everything. Why are they asking again? Can you accept anything about Jesus if you don’t have faith in Him?
- Who did the Jewish leaders follow and trust?

John 9:30-34. The man said, “This is amazing! You don’t know where Jesus is from. But Jesus made me see. We know God doesn’t pay attention to sinners. But if someone honors God and follows God, then God pays attention to that person. In all the history of the world, a person born blind remains blind. No one can make them able to see. If Jesus were not from God, He couldn’t do anything.” The Jewish leaders said, “You were born full of sin. You think you can teach us?” The leaders forced the man out of the Jewish church.

- What does the man mean, “God doesn’t pay attention to sinners?” Who is a “sinner?” How does God not pay attention to that person?

- If Jesus were a “sinner,” could Jesus do wonderful miracles? Since Jesus can do miracles, what does that say about Jesus?
- The Jewish leaders didn’t like the man’s answer. They kicked him out of the Jewish church. Do you think it was worth it for the man to see? He can see, but now the whole church is against him because he believes in Jesus. Worth it?

John 9:35-41. Jesus heard that the Jews forced the man out of the Jewish church. Jesus found him and asked, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” The man said, “Lord, who is He, so I can believe in Him?” Jesus said, “You see Him now, the One talking to you.” The man said, “Lord, I believe.” The man worshiped Jesus. Jesus said, “I came to judge the world. People who don’t see will see. People who see will become blind.” The Pharisees heard Jesus say that. They asked Jesus, “We are not blind, right?” Jesus said, “If you were blind, then you would have no sin. But you say you can see. So your sin stays with you.”

- First, Jesus gave physical sight to the blind man. The man could see the world around him. Now Jesus gave the man another kind of sight. Who could the man see (and believe in)?
- To “see” Jesus means to believe in Jesus. The Pharisees could see Jesus standing there. But did they have spiritual sight? Did they believe in Jesus?
- What does Jesus mean, “People who don’t see will see. People who see will become blind.” Who are the people who don’t see, but will see? Who are the people who think they can see, but are really blind?