



Session 6 Healing of a Blind Man
week starting April 5, 2020

If John uses the miracle stories to reveal who Jesus is, then the sixth sign, giving sight to a man born blind, might be the most poignant. By the end of John 9 we must answer the question, “Who is really blind?” The encounter challenges many assumptions as the disciples, the religious leaders, and even the blind man must wrestle with the questions, “Who is Jesus?” and, “Is he from God or not?” Not unlike today, what we have at stake tends to shape what we see.

GETTING STARTED

If you had been born blind and then gained sight, what would be important for you to see?

DISCUSSION

- Read John 9:1–5. What was the common understanding in Biblical times regarding sin and suffering? How do we understand suffering today?
- How does the “work of God” relate to suffering? How can we respond to suffering today?
- Read John 9:6–34. What are some of the responses to the healing of the blind man? How do the responses of the Pharisees differ from that of the healed man or his parents? How would you respond to this healing?
- What challenge or setback in your life has been an opportunity for God to be at work?
- Is it easy or difficult for you to talk to others about Jesus? Have people been receptive?
- Read John 9:35–41. What is the connection between sin, blindness, and sight?
- When have you thought you were right about something, but turned out to be wrong? How did it feel? Is it hard for you to admit your mistakes?
- Describe your own spiritual sight: is it blind, blurry, or clear? What “blind spots” might exist for you, and how could you correct them?
- In light of the signs of John we’ve examined in this series, how would you describe Jesus?

LIVE IT OUT!

Write down your own experience of encountering Jesus. For example, how you met Him, answered prayers you’ve experienced, or other.

PRAY

Lord, thank you that we can lean on you in difficult times, especially when we don’t understand the why of what’s happening. Help us to have patience and perseverance. We offer you our blind spots, and ask you to give us clearer vision when it comes to You and trusting your goodness.