

21/7/2013

Blindman Healed (JOHN 9)

Small Group Questions

Our sight is a wonderful gift from God. We marvel at the fiery colours of a sunset, the rich pastels of spring and the delicate beauty of a flower. How tragic it must be to never see the light of day.

But there is a far greater tragedy than physical blindness. Some people with twenty-twenty vision are blind spiritually to God and to his work all around them.

GROUP DISCUSSION. Describe your most vivid childhood memory involving darkness. What feelings come over you in the dark?

PERSONAL REFLECTION. In what ways would being blind change your life?

In John 9 Jesus meets a man who has been blind from birth. The man illustrates that those who are blind often see clearly, while others with sight see nothing at all. Read John 9:1-12.

1. Based on the question the disciples ask Jesus in verse 2, how do they view the relation between sickness and sin?
2. In your opinion, which of these views is more widely held among Christians today? Explain.
3. In verse 5 Jesus claims to be the light of the world. In what sense does the physical healing of the blind man confirm Jesus' spiritual claim?
4. Why do you think Jesus goes through the process of making mud and instructing the man to go wash, instead of simply healing him instantly?
5. Read John 9:13-41. How would you describe the initial response to the healed blind man of his neighbours (vv. 8-12)?
 - of the Pharisees (vv.13-17)?
 - of his parents (vv.18-23)?
 - of the man himself (vv.24-34)?
6. On what grounds do the Pharisees object to this miracle (vv. 16, 22, 24, 29)?
7. How do the Pharisees react when the genuineness 'of the miracle becomes undeniable (vv.28-34)?
8. When might Christians today exhibit the Pharisees' attitude toward a marvellous work of God's grace or power?
9. What is Jesus' purpose in seeking out the healed man a second time (vv.35-38)?
10. Through what weakness, failed relationship or disability in your life could God demonstrate his glory?

Thank Jesus for bringing spiritual sight to you.

Now or Later

The blind man believed in Jesus and worshiped him (John 9:38).

What do you think the man's worship involved? What posture before Jesus did he take? What words did he say?

These questions are from, John, The Way to True Life Study Guide by Douglas Connelly