Jesus Among Us 7.0

John 9:1-41

1

Invitation…

- A life lived WITH Jesus (relationship)
- Becoming LIKE Jesus (transformation)
- REVEALING Jesus (extension of God)

2

John 9:1-3

- **Now as *Jesus* passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth. 2 And His disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" 3 Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him.**
- Jesus sees a person.
- The disciples see a theological question.

3

John 9:4

- **4 I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; *the* night is coming when no one can work.**
- **work** "to carry out an activity, to accomplish something."
- **works** "deed, action, or accomplishment."
- Jesus is to accomplish the acts of the Father, that the works of the Father are to be displayed in and through Him.

4

John 9:5

- **5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."**
- And Jesus does not simply bring light into darkness. He is the Light that makes true sight possible, spiritual sight.

5

John 9:6-7

- **6 When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. 7 And He said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing.**

6

- **He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay.** The act of anointing by the anointed One points to the nature and character of God.
- **"Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent).** The act of being sent by the sent One … points to the nature and character of God.
- **So he went and washed, and came back seeing.** Jesus was led by the Father doing the works of the Father. No formulas. Just doing the works of the Father, as we are led by the Father.

7

Spiritual sight begins with recognizing our dependence on Jesus rather than our own ability.

Are we trying to accomplish for ourselves what Jesus is inviting us to receive from Him?

8

John 9:8-10

- **[8] Therefore the neighbors and those who previously had seen that he was blind said, "Is not this he who sat and begged?" [9] Some said, "This is he." Others *said,* "He is like him." He said, "I am *he.*" [10] Therefore they said to him, "How were your eyes opened?"**
- debate within the local community as the see this man with restored sight

9

John 9:11-12

- **[11] He answered and said, "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight." [12] Then they said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."**
- The testimony itself speaks to the nature of Jesus, even if the person sharing doesn't fully understand His nature!

10

John 9:13-16

- **[13] They brought him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees. [14] Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. [15] Then the Pharisees also asked him again how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see." [16] Therefore some of the Pharisees said, "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath."**

11

John 9:16-17

- **Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?" And there was a division among them. [17] They said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?" He said, "He is a prophet."**

12

- The Pharisees focus…
- **"This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath."**
- **"How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?"**
- It is possible to be deeply familiar with religious practices and traditions … and still resist the work of God when it challenges our expectations and assumptions.

13

John 5:18-20

- **18 But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight. 19 And they asked them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" 20 His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind;**

14

John 5:21-22

- **21 but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself." 22 His parents said these *things* because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed *that* He *was* Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue.**

15

John 5:23

- **23 Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."**
- We see though the parents' response, that fear of losing acceptance, maybe losing our community, has the potential to silence our testimony, even when the truth of the testimony is standing directly in front of us.

16

John 5:24-25

- **24 So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner." 25 He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner *or not* I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see."**
- The healed man acknowledges the limits of his knowledge, while remaining certain about his experience, what he does know, **that though I was blind, now I see."**

17

John 5:24-25

- **24 So they again called the man who was blind, and said to him, "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner." 25 He answered and said, "Whether He is a sinner *or not* I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see."**
- The pharisees claim knowledge but resist the evidence of what they see with their own eyes.

18

John 5:26-27

- **[26] Then they said to him again, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" [27] He answered them, "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear *it* again? Do you also want to become His disciples?"**
- What knowledge of God do we hold onto … at the cost of experiencing the testimony of what Jesus is doing around us?
- What are we hearing of Jesus that we are not receiving?

19

John 5:28-29

- **[28] Then they reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. [29] We know that God spoke to Moses; *as for* this *fellow,* we do not know where He is from."**
- John sets up a contrast between those who claim to understand God's past revelation and the healed man who recognizes God's present work through Jesus.

20

John 5:30-32

- **[30] The man answered and said to them, "Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! [31] Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. [32] Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind.**

21

John 5:33

- **[33] If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing." [34] They answered and said to him, "You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?" And they cast him out.**
- Pharisees - questioning the man's healing, challenging his testimony, and attempting to discredit Jesus.
- Healed man - What Jesus has done reveals something about who He is.

22

Spiritual blindness is not always the absence of knowledge. Sometimes it is the unwillingness to allow Jesus to challenge what we think we know.

Are we allowing Jesus to shape our understanding, are we expecting Him to fit within our current understanding of Him?

23

John 5:35-37

- **[35] Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of God?" [36] He answered and said, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" [37] And Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you."**
- Jesus reveals Himself as the One in whom the man is invited to place his faith in.

24

John 5:38

- **[38] Then he said, "Lord, I believe!" And he worshiped Him.**
- **worshiped** "meaning to bow down, prostrate oneself, or worship."
- The healed man sees Jesus and receives Jesus for who He is … his Lord!

25

John 5:39-41

- **[39] And Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind." [40] Then *some* of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these words, and said to Him, "Are we blind also?" [41] Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, 'We see.' Therefore your sin remains.**
- The pharisees sin remains … they refuse to acknowledge their spiritual need in Jesus.

26

The ultimate purpose of spiritual sight is not simply to understand what Jesus does, but to recognize who He is and respond to Him.

Are we seeking Jesus primarily for what He can do, or are we growing in our knowledge and worship of who He is?

27

Spiritual sight begins with recognizing our dependence on Jesus rather than our own ability.

Are we trying to accomplish for ourselves what Jesus is inviting us to receive from Him?

Recognize Your Need for Jesus (each and every day).

28

Spiritual blindness is not always the absence of knowledge. Sometimes it is the unwillingness to allow Jesus to challenge what we think we know.

Are we allowing Jesus to shape our understanding, or are we expecting Him to fit within our current understanding of Him?

Release Your Assumptions of Jesus (be open to Him changing how you see Him).

29

The ultimate purpose of spiritual sight is not simply to understand what Jesus does, but to recognize who He is and respond to Him.

Are we seeking Jesus primarily for what He can do, or are we growing in our knowledge and worship of who He is?

Respond to His Revelation (who He is … this requires daily relationship with Him).

30