

TEXT: JOHN 9

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Redeemer Institute** – Registration is open for the Spring 2020 classes: Christian Theology and Old Testament Survey. Registration closes December 15. Register at www.redeemerchurch.com/institute
 - **Peacemakers Christmas Toy Store** - Redeemer is partnering with Peacemakers to help provide Christmas gifts for low income families. Find out more at www.redeemerchurch.com/nextsteps. Gifts can be dropped off at the large box in the lobby.
 - **Parent Commissioning** – Our next parent commissioning is Sunday, December 15. If you are interested sign up at: www.redeemerchurch.com/nextsteps.
-

Leading Off...

1. Have you been blinded to something?
2. How is physical blindness so disabling, and why was it even more so in the first century?
3. Have you ever known anyone blind from birth?

BIG IDEA: Jesus gives us sight.

4. Why is this Big Idea so scandalous?

Read John 9:1-3

5. What is the context of this incident?
6. How was the reality of the curse of blindness twisted by the religious teachers of this day?
7. Have you ever felt valueless and worthless? If any are willing, please share.
8. Reread verse 3 and then discuss suffering in the world. What does Jesus say is the purpose for this man's blindness?
9. We are broken people in a broken world. How can we see our pain as having purpose?

Read John 9:6-12

10. Talk about Jesus' healing of the blind. Why is this so significant?
11. Why the spit and the mud?

Read John 9:13-17

12. Why are the Pharisees treating the formerly blind man like this?
13. What is the significance of Jesus' healing on the Sabbath?

Read John 9:18-23

14. Try to understand the parent's perspective. How must having a blind child have been very heartbreaking?
15. Why are the parents now so apprehensive?

16. How is religion always self-centered, whereas the gospel always produces others-centeredness?

Read John 9:26-34

17. What are the Pharisees doing to deny Jesus as Messiah?

18. Talk about the formerly blind man's testimony. All he had to do was deny Jesus and his life would be great. But he doesn't. How does it grip you?

19. How does acknowledging Jesus as our Lord cost those who follow Him?

Read John 9:35-41

20. Jesus seeks out the man He had healed. What was the man's response when he realized who he was talking to? How is this a picture of salvation?

Wrapping Up

21. Talk about spiritual blindness. Jesus gives some very strong words to the Pharisees for claiming that they could see. How is this such a staggering picture of a person in their sin?

22. The hymn "Amazing Grace" says, "*I was blind, but now I see.*" Will someone close us out with their testimony of healing of spiritual blindness.