



CENTREVILLE BAPTIST CHURCH
SUNDAY, MARCH 29, 2020
WEEK 5: CONFIRMATION BIAS

¹ As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

³ "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶ After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷ "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means "Sent"). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

⁸ His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, "Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some claimed that he was.

Others said, "No, he only looks like him." But he himself insisted, "I am the man."

¹⁰ "How then were your eyes opened?" they asked.

¹¹ He replied, "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see."

John 9:1-11

PASSAGE: **JOHN 9:**

PLOW THROUGH IT:

VERSES 1-5 -

VERSES 6-12 -

VERSES 13-16 -

VERSES 17-25 -

PICTURE A PARABLE:

WORD STUDY

"might be displayed" (v. 3): **φανερώω** (*phaneroō*) to become clearly revealed to the mind, senses, or judgment

"I have **revealed** you to those whom you gave me out of the world." John 17:6

PASTOR'S POINTS:

1. We'll never fully understand the purpose behind suffering, but we're still called to do the works of God.
2. Don't succumb to confirmation bias (which is a heart thing, not a head thing).
3. Focus on what you know, not what you don't know.
4. Are you willing to follow Jesus with incomplete information?
Are you willing to follow Jesus with unanswered questions?

PUT IT INTO PRACTICE

Take another look at Jesus.

¹ As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

³ "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

⁶ After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. ⁷ "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means "Sent"). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

⁸ His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, "Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?" ⁹ Some claimed that he was.

Others said, "No, he only looks like him."

But he himself insisted, "I am the man."

¹⁰ "How then were your eyes opened?" they asked.

¹¹ He replied, "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see."

John 9:1-11

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- *Without going down the rabbit hole of conspiracy theories, what are some of the biggest unknowns of the coronavirus pandemic? How are you able to stay positive and stay sane amidst such uncertainty?*
- *Read John 9:1-5. The disciples asked many of the same questions about pain and suffering that we still ask today. Look at Jesus' response. How does it help you process pain and suffering? What questions does it still leave unanswered?*
- *Read John 9:24-25. What was the one thing that this formerly blind man focused on? What did he know? In your life, what's one thing that you can focus on today in the midst of your current struggles?*