

Series: Gospel of John

January 11, 2026

Message: "God's Purpose in Suffering"

John 9:1-5

Big idea: God's purpose in suffering is not always known, but it is never without eternal significance. Jesus moved toward the suffering and so should we.

I. Introduction to chapter 9...

A. Chapter 9 is the APEX of John's gospel

B. John is the master of IRONY, and this chapter shows that like no other

C. John (and the writers of Scripture) don't avoid the HARD STUFF

II. A man born blind...

A. Jesus' ATTENTION v. 1

1. When we last SAW Jesus he had DISAPPEARED

2. What Jesus SAW

- There are no biblical accounts of RESTORED sight until the gospels**
- In the Old Testament giving of sight was always seen as a DIVINE MESSIANIC activity**

B. The disciples QUESTION v. 2 (CAUSE)

1. A case of bad THEOLOGY

2. Still bad theology TODAY

3. No EASY answers

- CORRECTIVE – Hebrews 12
- CONSTRUCTIVE – James 1
- REVEAL God's grace – 2 Corinthians 4:16-17; 12:9

C. Jesus' ANSWER vs. 3-5 (PURPOSE)

1. The SOVEREIGN purposes of God v. 3

- NEGATIVELY
- POSITIVELY

2. The STEWARDSHIP of man vs. 4-5

- NECESSITY
- WORKS
- URGENCY

III. What we take away...

There's a day coming when sin and suffering are no more. Until then, brokenness and suffering are opportunities for the works of God to be displayed. Live for his glory!