

Digging Deeper into John 9

Chat

- Imagine what it would be like to be blind. What things would you struggle with the most? If you are registered blind, what things do you find most difficult?
- What do you think it means to be spiritually blind?



Study

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=John+9&version=NIV>

This is a long chapter but it's worth reading it all in one go to see how the story unfolds.

- What do the disciples assume in v.2?
- How v.3-4 are translated lead to different meanings being emphasised:
 - *“Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me.”*
 - OR
 - *“Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “But so that the work of God might be displayed in his life, we must do the work of him who sent me while it is still day.”*

What are the differences and do you think it matters?

- This is the second time Jesus refers to himself as ‘the light of the world’ (v.5 and ch.8:12). What does this metaphor/picture say about him?
- How is the man healed (v.6-7)?
- Who questions the man about his healing and why he can now see (v.8, 15)?
- What is the man’s reply (v.11, 15)?
- What do the Pharisees say about Jesus (v.13-16, 24, 29)?
- What does the man say about Jesus (v.11, 17, 25, 30-32)?
- Why do you think the Pharisees sent for the man’s parents (v.18-19)?
- Why do his parents not want to get involved (v.20-23)?
- What do the Pharisees do to the man (v.34)?
- Jesus has not been heard from since v.7 but now he steps back into the story and finds the man. What is the result of their conversation (v.35-38)?
- The chapter finishes with an exchange between Jesus and the Pharisees about blindness. What kind of blindness are they talking about and what is the point Jesus is making (v.39-41)?
- How does this link back to Jesus’ claim to be the light of the world?

Think

- What is our story of what Jesus has done for us?
- Are we willing to share it with others and to stand up for what we believe about Jesus?
- How can you show the light of Jesus in the places you go and to the people you spend time with?

