

Blinded Vision

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Jesus was up to his usual stuff... walking around and preaching the truth... touching people in need, when one day... Jesus and his disciples found a blind guy. This man had been blind since the day he was born... he'd never seen anything.

ASK: If you wanted to help a blind person see... what would you do????

Jesus never really did things the way people thought he should. Let's take a look at how Jesus healed that blind guy.

John 9:5-7

While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

[6] Having said this, he (Jesus) 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.

That seems a little weird. Jesus spit in the dirt and made mud, and He took the mud and stuck it in the dude's eyes!!!!

Object lesson: Pan of dirt. Call up volunteer(s) to spit in it... stir it up with a stick and make mud. Then say, "Does anyone want to come up here and let me stick some of this mud in your eyes???" (Don't do it of course)

Ok, ok, we won't stick mud in anybody's eyes... just think about it though. Jesus stuck mud in his eyes, told him to go wash it off in a pool, and he came back seeing!!! For the first time in his whole life this guy could see everything. Would that be cool or what????

Well moving on...

So the day that Jesus healed the blind man, just happened to be the Sabbath day (which for Jewish people was a day of rest). Some of the Pharisees (religious folks) said that Jesus could not be from God because He healed on a day of rest. They ended up questioning the blind man (who was now the seeing man) about how Jesus healed him.

John 9:24-34

A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God," they said. "We know this man is a sinner."

[25] He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"

[26] Then they asked him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

[27] He answered, "I have told you already and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?"

[28] Then they hurled insults at him and said, "You are this fellow's disciple! We are disciples of Moses! [29] We know that God spoke to Moses, but as for this fellow, we don't even know where he comes from."

[30] The man answered, "Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. [31] We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will. [32] Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. [33] If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."

[34] To this they replied, "You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!" And they threw him out.

The Pharisees totally missed the point. They denied that Jesus was sent from God, much less that He was the Messiah. They ignored the miracle as if it didn't even happen. These goobers got so caught up in the details that they didn't even notice that the blind beggar was now seeing and rejoicing. The Pharisees could have been rejoicing too along with the man born blind, but instead they were pouting about why Jesus couldn't possibly be right and how the sinful man born blind has no right to set them straight.

John 9:39

Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

Any ideas why the Pharisees were so blind to the miracle???

Object Lesson: 1 volunteer, 1 blindfold.

Tie a blindfold that says PRIDE on it over a volunteer's eyes.

The Pharisees were blinded by their PRIDE.

They wanted to be the ones in the spotlight. "Why don't the people say good things about us like they do about Jesus," they thought. "How is it that He can open blind eyes and we can't?" Most of all, "Why didn't Jesus do it the right way, OUR WAY," the Pharisees muttered. "I can't believe He would dare to heal someone on the Sabbath day." So you see, the Pharisees totally missed the truth, because they were blinded by their PRIDE. They thought they had it all together and nobody who did it different than them could be right.

The point for us:

If we want to see the truth then we need to open our eyes to Jesus. We need to lay down our PRIDE and admit they we don't have it all together. To receive the miracles in our lives we need to admit we need Jesus. We need to realize, like the man born blind, "If this man (Jesus) were not from God He could do nothing."

Prayer:

Jesus, we admit that we need you. We ask you to take away our spiritual blindness. We believe that you are the Messiah sent from God, and we ask you to save us from our sin. Open our blind eyes Lord and let us see miracles taking place in our lives. AMEN.