

Life Groups

Signposts to Jesus



• 2026

• TOPIC 6 • JOHN 9:1-7

Topic

Jesus heals a blind man

First Thoughts

The concept of the Messiah bringing sight to the blind, both physically and spiritually, is an important one in the Old Testament scriptures. These are the markers of the messianic era that bring with it the true light and understanding.

Isaiah 35:5 says that when redemption comes the blind will see and the deaf will hear. Spiritual and physical healings are often linked in the ministry of Jesus.



1. What kinds of attitudes do you think prevent people from seeing or perceiving spiritual truth?

2. Can you think of any accounts in the scriptures where even the people Jesus encountered still couldn't see the truth? (See John 6:60-64)

Focus

Once again we find Jesus in Jerusalem near the temple. He passes by a man born blind and his disciples draw attention to the man when they want the answer to a question regarding the cause of the man's lack of sight. Jesus opens their eyes with an answer they were perhaps not expecting.

The Scriptures

Read John 9:1-7

How do you think this passage links with the previous chapter? See John 8:12

Do you believe God still heals people miraculously today?

Going Further

1. Does the text suggest the disciples think they may already know the answer to their question? v2

2. Why do you think they believe the cause of his blindness to be sin? (See Psalm 38:3, Exodus 20:5)

3. What do 1 Corinthians 2:14, John 9:39 and Ephesians 4:18 tell us about spiritual blindness?

4. Do you think it is significant that no one in the Old Testament was ever cured of blindness?

5. What does Jesus say is the reason for the man being born blind. Does this surprise you?

Going Further continued

6. Do you think Jesus is saying the reason the man was born blind was so that he might be a sign on this day or is he saying that despite being born blind his situation is an immediate opportunity for a sign?

7. Read v7. In what way do you think the outcome might have been different if the blind man had failed to wash in the Pool of Siloam?

Life Application

1. When we encounter suffering in the lives of others is it always helpful to try and offer an explanation to them?
2. Is there an important lesson in avoiding “blame culture” when bad things happen?
3. How effective do you think it is for us to tell our simple truths to others, e.g. “One thing I know, I was blind but now I see” John 9:15?
4. How can we avoid the spiritual blindness Jesus accused the Pharisees of in John 9: 40-41

If we are to work the works of God, we must never just discuss it, but seek to bring light and life.

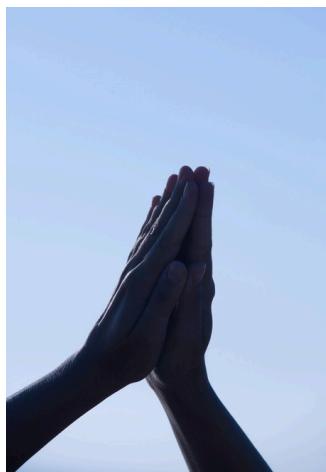
- Richard Burridge

“Trials teach us what we are; they dig up the soil, and let us see what we are made of.”

- Charles Spurgeon

Prayer

Heavenly Father,



We acknowledge our need for Your divine light.
Remove any scales, veil or darkness that may obscure your truth in our hearts and minds.
When our natural eyes see only challenges, obstacles and difficulties, show us the presence and power of your Spirit at work.
Give us eyes to perceive that which is eternal and discernment to recognise that which only claims to be the light yet leads to destruction.
May your word continue to be a lamp to our feet and may the eyes of our hearts be enlightened that we may know the hope of your calling.

Amen

To finish

Take a few moments to pray for insight and wisdom in our understanding of, and dealings with others, especially those who suffer or are physically disabled.

Ask God to illuminate the Pastor and Elders that they may know His will for the fellowship at Mount Pleasant. Pray for wisdom, guidance and humility for those who have responsibility for the church, especially the finance and youth teams (junior church, youth, BB).