

Blind Man Sees

The Gospel of John is so wonderful because John paints, time and time again, such a clear picture of who Jesus is. In particular, John wants the reader to unmistakably and undeniably know that Jesus is not just someone who was sent from God as a great prophet or teacher or upstanding moral person or something like that, but that Jesus is very God who came from heaven, in human flesh, to dwell among humanity that He created in order to not only tell us, but to show us, how to have eternal life, which is found in HIM.

SERMON SUMMARY

The temptation with this passage is to focus on the physical healing of the blind man and draw conclusions about what it means for physical healing today. This real account of Jesus healing a man who was blind from birth is not so much about the physical healing of one person as it is the spiritual healing of any person. Today's text points to <u>the work of God</u> that He alone is able to accomplish in <u>any</u> person who is living in darkness - spiritually blind.

What big takeaway - Truth from the Word - stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?

I: THE WORK OF GOD ... IS A WORK OF GLORY, GRACE & POWER

1. Have you experienced a "spiritual healing"? Have you received your "sight"? Share together as a group what that meant for you. What has God brought to light in your life, that you were blind to, that you now see more clearly and have received freedom from? How did that change you?



- 2. The condition that is common to us all is a spiritual darkness as a result of sin that we are born into. Does what you do (how you live, act, your faith, habits, behaviour etc...) glorify Jesus? Does your life point people to Him and make much of Him?
- 3. We are all agents of God's grace to a lost world. Jesus displays a miraculous, undeserved, merciful act of healing, to show that anyone can be healed from his or her dark condition because when we are blind we need grace. How do we demonstrate God's grace through our church, our lives, marriages, relationships, our work and our families? Is it hard to grant grace to some people and in certain situations? Why? What is the solution?
- 4. The healing of the blind man was a work that was impossible for man to accomplish. For encouragement take time to read together; *Luke 1:37; Matthew 19:26; John 15:1-8; Acts 1:8; Philippians 4:13* If something seems impossible, scripture tells us to depend on God's power He is what we need to set our eyes on. How have you learned to depend on God?

II: THE WORK OF GOD ... IS A WORK OF REVELATION

 It is easy in this life to live for ourselves and our glory, but we are called to live for God's glory. This miracle was intended to make Jesus know for who He really is and this miracle is intended to reveal who we really are. Light injected into darkness changes the perspective of any situation. Read *Ephesians 1:15-22*. Take time to identify the promises of God and discuss what we are called to as we Love God, Love People and Serve our World together.

III: THE WORK OF GOD ... IS A WORK OF TRANSFORMATION (v8-9)

- The number one thing that keeps people from right relationship with God and others, is pride. One of the greatest signs that someone is saved is humility - the "old man" is gone (Paul the chief of sinners, not worthy to be called an apostle; Peter "go away from me Lord, for I am a sinful man!"). If you have been transformed by the Gospel do others see a changed life? How often does your pride get in the way of your spiritual growth?
- 2. Are you committed to helping others on their transformation journey through the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit, from blindness to God's light, without judgement? Or does your fear and pride get in the way?

CONCLUSION

Have you personally experienced the glory and grace of God, His transforming power your eyes opened to who He is, washed, cleaned and ready to humbly respond and be used of Him? If you have you are now <u>sent</u> to do the same works that Jesus did, as His body in the world.

SHARE & PRAY

- Pray in response to the things you discussed in this study.
- As the New Year begins pray for those whom you would desire to know Jesus and receive spiritual healing.
- Spend time thanking God for specific evidences of His grace in your lives, giving glory to Him.
- Conclude by spending some time praying for one another, the growth in grace you want to experience, the parts of your life you may need healing over, and the needs among you.