

Some people judged Jesus wrongly. They did not understand that He was really God's Son. They had a trial and judged Him guilty when He was innocent! They made a horrible mistake. They crucified Jesus on a cross.

However, this is not the end! Jesus died, but He died for a special reason. He died to pay the price for all the wrongs WE have done. He traded places with us! Then, He came back to life 3 days later!

If we believe in Jesus and ask Him to come into our hearts, He will clean out all our sins and make us pure. We do not have to worry about all the wrongs we have done. He has forgiven them. He will stay with us and help us live for God and do things His way. Then, one day, He will take us to heaven.

Review questions:

1. What does it mean to judge someone? (Answer: to think we are better than them and point out their faults)
2. What did Jesus say to the religious men when they brought a sinful woman to Him? (Answer: You can stone her if you have no sin)
3. What is a hypocrite? (Answer: Someone who says one thing but does another)
4. What should we do before we judge someone else? (Answer: look at our own faults and ask for God's help)

Prayer: Ask God to help us not to judge others this week. It will really take some practice to show love and kindness instead of judgment. Ask for help from God.

Application: Think about your friends at school. What if they were all putting down someone in your class? They might say something like, "He is dumb" or "nobody likes her." Remembering what Jesus said about judging others, you could tell your friends that we all have things to work on. Maybe instead of judging, they could be nice to them and help them.

Jesus was known for "hanging out" with people that nobody else would be around. Think of examples (Zaccheus, the woman at the well, Mary Magdalene, etc.). Because Jesus showed them love instead of condemning them, they experienced God's forgiveness and their lives were changed! We can do the same.

Memory Verse: Jesus said to her, "Neither do I condemn you; go and sin no more." 8:11



Lesson 9 [Chapter 9]"The man born blind"

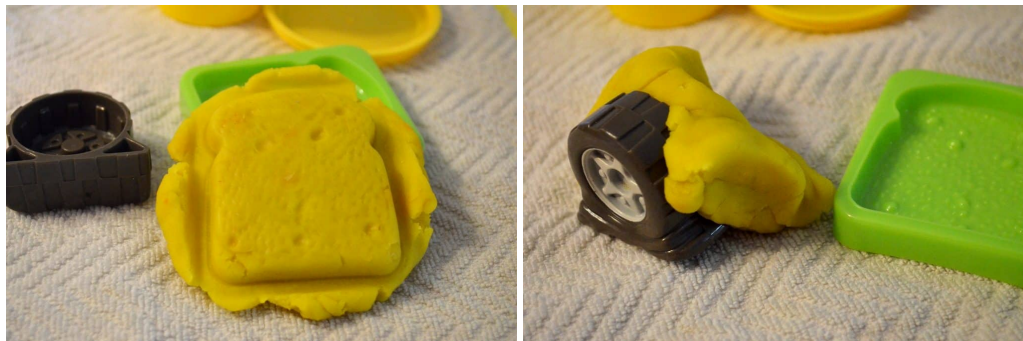
Remember:

Last lesson in chapter 8, we saw a woman caught in adultery, Jesus foils a trap set by the Pharisees by challenging them to examine their own sins, demonstrating that grace triumphs over condemnation. Following this, Jesus declares Himself the "light of the world," offering guidance to those in darkness.

Lesson Goal:

Let us move from spiritual blindness to seeing and believing in Jesus as the Son of God, enabling us to trust Him during tough times.

Lesson opener:



{Hold up the play dough and one of the molds. Have a conversation while you make the mold impression. Ask:

- What happens if I squish the play dough into the mold? [It becomes the shape of the mold.]
- Can I make more than one shape? [Yes, out of more play dough.]
- Can I put the molded play dough back into the mold? Will it fit? [Yes.]
- Will this molded play dough match this second mold? [No.]
- What will happen if I try to put this molded play dough into a mold it doesn't fit into? [Play dough will squirt out of the sides, the other molded shape will be ruined.]

Similarly, the Pharisees wanted Jesus, and the expected Messiah, to fit into their little mold [how they wanted the messiah to look like]. They wanted Him to do exactly what they thought He should do.

Over and over Jesus tried to explain to the Pharisees, and everyone, Who He was and Who sent Him. But that didn't fit the mold of the people and the Pharisees. Lines were crossed and life became squishy and messed up. So, when Jesus healed a blind man on the Sabbath, it caused a real stink.

Lesson Body:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=G5bVMGj3hFI&t=213s>

This is the only chapter in all the Old and New Testament books where there is any mention of opening the eyes of a person born blind. [There are 6 blind people healed by Jesus, he is the only one born without eyes]

A Man Born Blind Receives Sight 9:1-12



The place was probably some spot near the Temple, perhaps one of its gates where beggars sit.

We are going to see Jesus give sight to a man who was blind from birth. Jesus proves to the world that He truly is the Messiah, fulfilling the prophecies that the Messiah will give sight to the blind.

Jesus would be the One to heal us of our spiritual blindness, when the hearts are filled with the darkness of sin. As a public demonstration of His claim, He gave sight to a man born blind. *Jesus is the light of the world.*

What a tragedy it would be to be born blind, never to have seen anything in your life. Just think; this man had never seen people or colors or trees or flowers, only darkness. What a sad condition to be in.

In that day and age, he could be nothing more than a beggar, yes, this was a tragedy.

But an even greater tragedy is the blindness over the minds and hearts of unbelievers who are deceived by Satan to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of Jesus. This is called spiritual blindness. Jesus is the light of the world; He brings light to the hearts of those in darkness (Acts 26:18).

It was a common belief in Jewish culture that tragedy and suffering were a direct result of some great sin, and unfortunately, the religious leaders and their followers believed this man was blind because of sin even the disciples were confused and asked Jesus *“Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”*

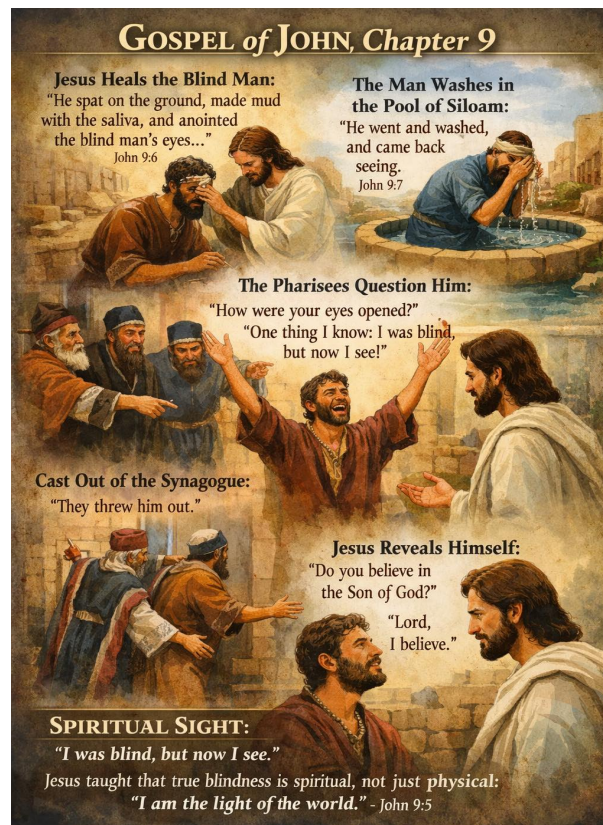
The disciples' question probably originated from the Paralytic man's miracle when Jesus told him to sin no more. How could this apply on him if he was born blind, he could not have sinned before birth? Was it his parents? But God doesn't punish kids for their parents' sins.

When Jesus looked at him, He saw his need and earnestly met it. Jesus said, "I am the light of the world." Since He is the light of the world, He gives us salvation to meet our greatest need.

9:4 "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

The Lord performs the same works as the Father.

The period of His service is an opportunity to work openly even if that is done on the Sabbath.



This is an invitation for us to work and to seize every hour in our lives; lest our work remains unfinished when the day of our lives comes to an end. The Lord has granted us the day so that we may labor.

Why did Jesus use clay?

A confirmation that He is the Creator and Savior.

WAS IT NECESSARY TO GO THROUGH THESE STEPS TO BE HEALED? He could have just said, “See” to the man? It is well known that mud would damage a healthy eye.

1. None of the steps would cause healing on their own. The power was in Him, and He could heal anyway He chose.
2. We must obey Jesus’ command and wash in water. Baptism regains sight, it is needed to enjoy the Light of the Holy Spirit through the new birth.
3. He sets an example of not postponing good work. [Sabbath]

The instructions Jesus gave to this man could not have been simpler; “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam.” The blind man simply went, washed, and came back seeing. Jesus helped strengthen this man’s faith, for his simple obedience is all Jesus required. All this man had to do was trust in Jesus and obey.

Could you imagine the excitement this man experienced as he made his way through the streets where he once walked in darkness? But not everyone shared in his celebration of this miraculous healing. Some of the people had a hard time believing that this was the same blind man, but many did believe.

The Pharisees Excommunicate the Healed Man 9:13-34

The neighbors were astonished as he had been born and had grown among them. There were conflicting views, according to human knowledge, healing appeared to be impossible in such a case. Was he the same man who had been blind and begging?

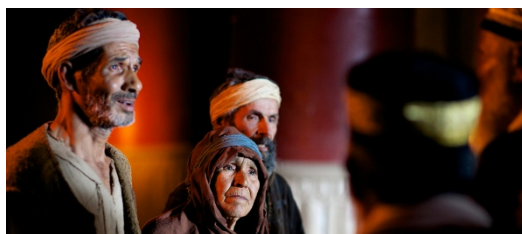
When God does something exciting in our life, there are some people who will not share our excitement. Some of the religious leaders hated Jesus and everyone who believed in Him. Because of their rejection of Jesus as the Messiah, they would persecute this man.

We have to be prepared for those who would reject us as Christians. Jesus said that we are blessed when we are persecuted and spoken evil of for His namesake (Matthew 5:10-12).

The man confirmed the story to 1) the neighbors then to 2) the Pharisees.

This man refused to be intimidated by these religious leaders and made a stand for Jesus and the miracle He worked in his life.

Maybe he wasn’t blind, let us ask his parents!



You can be sure that his parents wanted to share in their son's miracle, but they were afraid of the religious leaders and their power. Their son stood alone for what Jesus did in his life. Unfortunately, his parents were afraid of losing their friends and position in their synagogue and left their son to face the angry religious leaders alone.

By now the man who had been blind had heard the same questions over and over. He knew that his life had been miraculously changed and was not afraid to tell the truth. He simply told them what happened, "I was blind, and now I see." We do not need to know all the answers in order to share Jesus with others, but we do need to be a good witness by telling others what Jesus has done for us and the change He has made in our life.

The religious leaders were very sure of themselves, and they considered Jesus a sinner especially for healing him on a Sabbath. The man was slandered and cast out from the Temple. They concluded that he was born in sin and could not possibly teach them anything, so they cast him out of the meeting.

Though the hearts of the religious leaders were filled with darkness, the light of Jesus shown in this man's heart, for Jesus is the light of the world.

True Vision and True Blindness 9:35-41

Look who finds this man. Jesus again seeks him out to help him understand who He is and calls him to a commitment of faith in the One who healed him.

Jesus cares for our physical needs, but our spiritual need is much greater. The man wanted to believe, but he was ignorant of who Jesus is. After Jesus revealed that He is the "Son of Man," which was a title of the Messiah, the man responded in faith and worshipped Him.

He not only gained physical sight, but spiritual sight as he recognized Jesus as a caring person, then Prophet, then Lord. Gradual growth in faith.

When we turn to Jesus, we begin to see Him differently. The longer we walk with Him the better we will understand who He is. Peter tells us to "grow in spiritual strength and become better acquainted with our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Peter 3:18).

Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world." Jesus wants us to know that He will pronounce decisions on the ungodly like a judge (John 5:22, 27).

The blind that come to sight are those who, admitting their sinfulness, trust Jesus for their salvation. Unfortunately, the religious leaders claimed to see, thinking that God favored them because of who they were. They failed to see their need for Jesus and willfully sinned, bringing judgment upon themselves.

Everyone needs Jesus because we live in spiritual darkness without Him. Do you need a new life like the blind man did? Like him, we can receive a new life by walking in the light of His mercy and love. Jesus can remove your spiritual darkness, for truly Jesus is the light of the world.

Lesson Takeaway:

It is so great to know that Jesus will find us when we have been cast away. That man had been telling the truth, but because what happened did not fit into the mold of the Pharisees, they cast him away.

People cannot argue away your personal relationship and experiences with Jesus. They cannot refute it. They can cast you away, ignore you, mock you, and hurt you, but they cannot change the truth that Jesus does amazing things that are unexplained and unexpected in your life.

But sometimes when we have a need, and we go to Jesus with it, we expect Him to answer our prayer exactly how WE want it to be answered. {Hold up the mold.}

We try to fit Jesus into our mold. Some people call this “putting God into a box.” But scripture tells us that God wants to do immeasurably more than anything we can imagine. It’s like He wants to do “far more than” we can imagine. And waiting and watching God do “far more than” can be amazing!!

Memory Verse: 9:25 He answered and said, “Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see.” Jr Elementary verse 9:25: “I was blind, now I see.”

Word Search for Jesus Healed a Blind Man

Find the words on the list that are hidden in the puzzle. The words can be left to right, up and down, or diagonally.

L	I	S	I	T	N	A	B	L	I	N	D
M	U	D	A	L	A	T	U	W	R	I	T
L	O	R	E	C	T	E	M	P	A	T	O
N	S	I	N	N	E	R	E	H	U	S	S
N	O	N	S	E	Q	U	I	A	L	A	H
P	R	E	B	E	G	G	A	R	R	U	R
L	O	O	R	E	M	O	L	I	R	S	R
S	U	O	N	D	R	E	T	S	T	I	E
I	T	N	L	H	E	N	I	E	M	G	D
T	I	E	Y	E	S	D	E	E	M	H	E
L	S	I	L	O	A	M	N	S	C	T	E
T	U	E	D	O	L	O	R	E	I	Q	U

BEGGAR
BLIND

EYES
MUD

PHARISEES
POOL

SIGHT
SILOAM

SINNER
WASH