



EYES THAT SEE

John 9

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Jon Field, Lead Pastor

MESSAGE NOTES

As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth. – John 9:1 (ESV)

The Situation: A Family Challenge

*And His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"
– John 9:2 (ESV)*

An Honest Question: "Why?"

Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him." – John 9:3 (ESV)

Jesus' Answer: "None of the Above"

"Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." – Joshua 1:9 (NIV)

An Additional Question to Ask: "How are you at work in this, Lord?"

"As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." – John 9:5 (ESV)

Having said these things, He spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then He anointed the man's eyes with the mud and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing. – John 9:6 – 7 (ESV)

The Qualities of a Disciple Who Moves Past the "Why?":

- Instead of seeing only the challenges, look for the opportunities of how God is at work

He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed and received my sight." – John 9:11 (ESV)

Pharisee like attitudes always spread fear and seek to divide people in the midst of God's glory being revealed.

- Instead of looking from a distance, offer help up close

And they reviled him, saying, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He comes from." The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where He comes from, and yet He opened my eyes." – John 9:28-30 (ESV)

- Instead of just being angry, be angry about the right things



He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped Him. – John 9:38 (ESV)

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life." – John 3:16 (NASB)

Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind." – John 9:39 (ESV)

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

- Discussion Starter: What are some of the types of things that happen in the world that cause us to ask "Why, God?" questions?
- Read John 9:1-2. Why do the disciples think the man's blindness is connected to his own sin or his parent's sin?
- Read John 9:3. What does Jesus say the reason for His blindness is? How have you seen the work of God displayed in your life in the midst of a challenging circumstance?
- What are some of the ways God moves us from simply asking "Why?" to a place of being able to see how God is working in and through a challenge?
- Pastor Jon said, "Pharisee like attitudes always spread fear and seek to divide people in the midst of God's glory being revealed." How is this displayed in this passage and how have you seen it in the modern church and world?
- In the face of pain and suffering it is easy to retreat from people and from God. Why is it important to remain "up close and personal" with God and people while navigating challenging circumstances? What helps us to do that?
- What was your biggest take away from the message this week?
- In John 9 there are a few different kinds of blindness on display beyond the man's actual physical blindness. There is the blindness of not seeing Jesus as the Messiah and the blindness of the disciples not seeing how God could be glorified in a difficult situation. How do you see both types of blindness displayed in our world? How have you seen that in your own life and how has God helped you to "see" again?