

Gospel of John Weekly Resource Guide

Helping You Become a Better Apprentice of Jesus

For the Week of June 5, 2022

OVERVIEW

This story highlights two interrelated ways of thinking that create conflict and harm. The first attitude is our need to assign blame. When Jesus and his disciples encounter a blind man, the disciples immediately ask: “Who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” In their mind, someone had to be at fault. Jesus responds by saying no one is at fault and heals the man. This leads us to the second kind of thinking that causes conflict and harm. When the Pharisees find out that Jesus had healed the man on the Sabbath, they are upset and proceed to interrogate the man. Why? Because they were more concerned that Jesus had broken tradition than they were about the man who needed healing. As we see in the story, Jesus puts people first.

BIBLE READING

John 9:1-41

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. 2 His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” 3 “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. 4 As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. 5 While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” 6 After saying this, he 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 ... 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 person 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.”

Main Point: Jesus always puts people first.

REFLECTION

The following questions are based off material found in the Serendipity New Testament for Groups. Use these questions to further reflect on this week’s reading.

- Why do the disciples ask the question they do in verse 1?

- In this story, what is the “work of God”?
- Why does Jesus keep healing on the Sabbath when he knows it upsets the Pharisees?
- Who has been the hardest person for you to explain your faith to? Why?

PRAY 52

Nehemiah rebuilt the walls of Jerusalem in 52 days. 40, the Biblical number for trial and purification + 12, the Biblical number for faith, divine rule and establishing = 52, a time of “accelerated and miraculous achievement.” There are 7, God’s number of completion, 52’s in a year. For 2022, we will be focusing on 7 areas of need for a 52-day season. See what “accelerated and miraculous achievement” God will do in and through us.

Healing

- Heal cancer and chronic illnesses.
- Support each person during surgery and recovery.
- Guide and give us the gift to care for each other and our community.
- Deliver those in bondage to addictions.
- Relieve us from anger, anxiety and depression.
- Give us a spirit of love and a sound mind.
- Increase our faith so we can respect God’s will.

“O God, quicken to life every power within me, that I may lay hold of eternal things. Open my eyes that I may see; give me acute spiritual perception; enable me to taste Thee and know that Thou art good. Make heaven more real to me than any earthly thing has ever been. Amen.” – A.W. Tozer from The Pursuit of God.

NEXT STEP

This week, send a note of encouragement by email, card, or text to someone who needs encouragement.