

Story Time - Read the story to the children
Lesson 205: JESUS HEALS THE BLIND MAN
JOHN 9:1-41

While Jesus was walking, he saw a man who had been blind since the time he was born. Jesus' followers asked him, "Teacher, why was this man born blind? Whose sin made it happen? Was it his own sin or that of his parents?" Jesus answered, "It was not any sin of this man or his parents that caused him to be blind. He was born blind so that he could be used to show what great things God can do. While it is daytime, we must continue doing the work of the one who sent me. The night is coming, and no one can work at night. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." After Jesus said this, he spit on the dirt, made some mud and put it on the man's eyes. Jesus told him, "Go and wash in Siloam pool." (Siloam means "Sent.") So the man went to the pool, washed and came back. He was now able to see. His neighbors and some others who had seen him begging said, "Look! Is this the same man who always sits and begs?" Some people said, "Yes! He is the one." But others said, "No, he can't be the same man. He only looks like him." So the man himself said, "I am that same man." They asked, "What happened? How did you get your sight?" He answered, "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. Then he told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went there and washed. And then I could see." They asked him, "Where is this man?" He answered, "I don't know." Then the people brought the man to the Pharisees. The day Jesus had made mud and healed the man's eyes was a Sabbath day. So the Pharisees asked the man, "How did you get your sight?" He answered, "He put mud on my eyes. I washed, and now I can see." Some of the Pharisees said, "That man does not obey the law about the Sabbath day. So he is not from God." Others said, "But someone who is a sinner cannot do these miraculous signs." So they could not agree with each other. They asked the man again, "Since it was your eyes he healed, what do you say about him?" He answered, "He is a prophet." The Jewish leaders still did not believe that this really happened to the man--that he was blind and was now healed. But later they sent for his parents. They asked them, "Is this your son? You say he was born blind. So how can he see?" His parents answered, "We know that this man is our son. And we know that he was born blind. But we don't know why he can see now. We don't know who healed his eyes. Ask him. He is old enough to answer for himself." They said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders. The leaders had already decided that they would punish anyone

who said Jesus was the Messiah. They would stop them from coming to the synagogue. That is why his parents said, "He is old enough. Ask him." So the Jewish leaders called the man who had been blind. They told him to come in again. They said, "You should honor God by telling the truth. We know that this man is a sinner." The man answered, "I don't know if he is a sinner. But I do know this: I was blind, and now I can see." They asked, "What did he do to you? How did he heal your eyes?" He answered, "I have already told you that. But you would not listen to me. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to be his followers too?" At this they shouted insults at him and said, "You are his follower, not us! We are followers of Moses. We know that God spoke to Moses. But we don't even know where this man comes from!" The man answered, "This is really strange! You don't know where he comes from, but he healed my eyes. We all know that God does not listen to sinners, but he will listen to anyone who worships and obeys him. This is the first time we have ever heard of anyone healing the eyes of someone born blind. This man must be from God. If he were not from God, he could not do anything like this." The Jewish leaders answered, "You were born full of sin! Are you trying to teach us?" And they told the man to get out of the synagogue and to stay out. When Jesus heard that they had forced the man to leave, he found him and asked him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" The man said, "Tell me who he is, sir, so I can believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have already seen him. The Son of Man is the one talking with you now." The man answered, "Yes, I believe, Lord!" Then he bowed and worshiped Jesus. Jesus said, "I came into this world so that the world could be judged, so that people who are blind could see, and those who see may be made blind." Some of the Pharisees were near Jesus. They heard him say this. They asked, "What? Are you saying that we are blind too?" Jesus said, "If you were really blind, you would not be guilty of sin. But you say that you see, so you are still guilty."

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JOHN 9:1-41



"Jesus anoints the blind man's eyes with clay."

John 9:6

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MEMORY VERSE:

Jesus said, "I came into this world so that the world could be judged, so that people who are blind could see, and those who see may be made blind." JOHN 9:39

Review Questions

True or False

1. When Jesus walked by, He saw a man who was deaf since he was born.
2. Jesus' disciples asked Him, "Was it this man who sinned, or his parents?"
3. Jesus answered them and said, "It was not any sin of this man or his parents that caused him to be blind. He was born blind so that he could be used to show what great things God can do."
4. After Jesus said these things, he poured water from a pitcher on the ground and made clay, and he put the clay on the blind man's head.
5. Jesus told the man, "Go and wash in the pool of Siloam." But when he went and washed, he was still blind.

Questions

1. Did the Pharisees believe that the man was blind, and was now able to see?
2. Who did the Pharisees send for to ask if the man was really born blind? Was it his parents?
3. After the man told the Pharisees again how he was healed, what did they do to him? Did they tell him to leave the synagogue and never come back?
4. When Jesus heard that the Pharisees had kicked the man out of the synagogue, and when He found the man again, what did He ask the man? Did He ask him if he believed in the Son of Man?
5. What did the man say to Jesus when He asked him if he believed in the Son of Man?
6. What did Jesus say to the man when he asked Him who the Son of Man was?
7. Did the man believe that Jesus was the Son of Man?

Lesson 205 Activity

Living Without Sight

You will need:

As many sheets of paper and pencils or crayons as the number of children in your class, a box or bag containing several objects such as an acorn or nut, a car key, a stone, a barrette, a ring, and an unusual kitchen gadget (be sure there are no sharp objects).(you can search around the church & get maybe a big spoon from the kitchen, use one of your keys, a ring, or look in the desk drawers for a stray barrette, etc. to put in the bag)

Give each child a piece of paper and pencil or crayon. Have them reach into the box or bag that they cannot see inside and feel one of several objects: such as an acorn or nut, a car key, a stone, a barrette, a ring, an unusual kitchen gadget.

Let them feel it for about 30 seconds and have them draw what it is on their sheets of paper. Make your requirements age appropriate; for older children you can require a higher level of accuracy in size and shape of the objects.

When your class is done drawing, empty the contents of the box or bag for their examination. Have them explain what it was like to try to understand an object without the benefit of seeing it. Explain that this man lived all his life like that. It must have been difficult for him! He was so blessed that Jesus found him and healed him! Think of how happy he must have been to walk through his village that he never saw anything in, now seeing everything and everyone!

PRAYER

Lead the children in a prayer of thankfulness that Jesus has come to bring light into this world. If there are any children who have not yet responded to the gospel, give them opportunity to do so.

