

Date: _____



Shepherd's Path

A Shepherd's Personal Devotions

Signs on Believers' Highway, Lesson 42

Lesson Title: Healing of the Blind Man

Take Home Point: Jesus spiritually opens our eyes to see the truth.

Warm-Up:

Isn't it wonderful to be living in a time when we can see things in ways our ancestors could not? For example, until Christian Huygens invented the telescope, human beings had no concept of the vast scope and beauty of what was beyond their eyes in the night sky. Then, on the reverse scale, the microscope offered a view of things too small to see. Think of all the medical advances brought about by seeing what was formerly invisible because of its size! And now we get to see other things formerly unseen through sensors across the electromagnetic spectrum, such as X-ray, ultraviolet, infrared radiation. Our eyes are now opened to better understand and appreciate the infinite variety, complexity, and magnificence of God's creation.

Read: John 8:12b; 9:1-41

Observation (What happened?):

How long had the man been blind? Who knew this was so?

How did the formerly blind man respond to his healing? How did the Pharisees respond?

Interpretation (What does it mean?):

Why do you think Jesus didn't just heal the man on the spot?

What does Jesus mean in John 9:41?

Insight:

Do you think the man born blind ever got tired of seeing the world around him – the world he never saw until Jesus healed him? It's hard to imagine he could ever have tired of the shapes and colors and scenes around him, but it is possible he became dulled to the "everyday." It happens today, doesn't it? How many times have you seen a sunrise or a sunset? Does each one always inspire the same emotion as the previous one? Do you always see your friends and family members as the wonder they are (even with all their imperfections)? Do you always appreciate the infinite variety of colors around you? Probably not. I doubt anyone really does. Being truly conscious of these things is a mindset that we train ourselves to have. And what is true for our physical vision is true for our spiritual vision. If we always look at the same things, we can get dulled and not really see what God has for us. It is important to let God continue to refresh our view by reading and studying all of his word, not just the few parts that are familiar. We need to be careful not to close our eyes to the truth he wants us to see. No matter how much we know, there is always more to see if we are looking for it and open to his teaching, because there is no end to his truth and how it applies to our lives on this earth.

Application (What does it mean to me?):

What blindness did you have from which Jesus healed you?

To what truth is he opening your eyes today, this week, or this month?

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