

SUNDAY 10AM OCTOBER 19 2025

EYES TO SEE #2

JOHN 9:24-41 NLT

24 So for the second time they called in the man who had been blind and told him, “God should get the glory for this, because we know this man Jesus is a sinner.”

25 “I don’t know whether he is a sinner,” the man replied. “But I know this: I was blind, and now I can see!”

26 “But what did he do?” they asked. “How did he heal you?”

27 “Look!” the man exclaimed. “I told you once. Didn’t you listen? Why do you want to hear it again? Do you want to become his disciples, too?”

28 Then they cursed him and said, “You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses! 29 We know God spoke to Moses, but we don’t even know where this man comes from.”

30 “Why, that’s very strange!” the man replied. “He healed my eyes, and yet you don’t know where he comes from? 31 We know that God doesn’t listen to sinners, but he is ready to hear those who worship him and do his will. 32 Ever since the world began, no one has been able to open the eyes of someone born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, he couldn’t have done it.”

34 “You were born a total sinner!” they answered. “Are you trying to teach us?” And they threw him out of the synagogue.

35 When Jesus heard what had happened, he found the man and asked, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

36 The man answered, “Who is he, sir? I want to believe in him.”

37 “You have seen him,” Jesus said, “and he is speaking to you!”

38 “Yes, Lord, I believe!” the man said. And he worshiped Jesus.

39 Then Jesus told him, “I entered this world to render judgment—to give sight to the blind and to show those who think they see that they are blind.”

40 Some Pharisees who were standing nearby heard him and asked, “Are you saying we’re blind?”

41 “If you were blind, you wouldn’t be guilty,” Jesus replied. “But you remain guilty because you claim you can see.

John 9:24-41 NLT

STORY: Jesus walks past a man born blind and demonstrates the power of God by covering his eyes and sending him to the pool of Siloam to be healed. The man went home seeing. His neighbours didn't believe it was him and took him to the synagogue to be questioned by the pharisees and for the next little while he and his parents are questioned heavily about the healing, and in the questioning the pharisees mock Jesus, and mock this man.

Jesus hears what's happening and goes to the man and speaks with him after some time. He changes the subject from physical obedience to spiritual lordship. And we see again the slow change in the man's picture of Jesus now coming fully into Jesus is Lord by the end. Jesus then gives a picture of his mission to the man and the bystanders which is a good warning for us.

So, this story is not just about the healing of a blind man, but about participating in God's mission to bring light to the world.

Jesus was the sent one of God.

You and I are invited into that. We are sent by Jesus and we are called to live like Jesus by abiding in him.

Last week we looked at having eyes to see every person being made in the image of God.

We looked at seeing God's power work through us at the right time and not being hesitant by it.

We looked at seeing the kingdom of God breaking through slowly - being patient with it and not rushing or not observing it at all.

These are physical representations of the kingdom of God coming to earth.

Jesus doesn't just see the physical kingdom of God come to earth, he wants the spiritual realities of the kingdom on earth too - which is to see Jesus as our lord and saviour, to see him as the son of man.

We can't just expect the physical kingdom of God to come on earth, we have to help people see Jesus as Lord and Saviour - maybe not just obeying him, but also worshipping him too.

As we continue to see what Jesus is doing in this story, it will encourage us in how we are sent too.

1. SEE THE SPIRITUAL OPENING

When we are sent by Jesus, our eyes need to be opened not just for the physical opportunity to show God's kingdom but also the spiritual opportunities that are available to us.

35 When Jesus heard what had happened, he found the man and asked, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"

John 9:35 NLT

The now healed man's faith grew throughout the story as he began to realise who Jesus was. Jesus didn't jump straight in, but listened to the conversation and waited to jump in. He sought out the man and asked him a spiritual question, not a condemning question about his faith.

The former gains first his sight, and then increasing insight as he progresses from referring to "the man called Jesus," whose whereabouts he does not know (vv 11–12), to declaring him to be a prophet (v 17), then one sent from God (v 33), and finally confessing him as Son of Man and kurios ("Lord," vv 37–38).

Beasley-Murray, George R.. John, Volume 36: Revised Edition (Word Biblical Commentary) (p. 609). (Function). Kindle Edition.

The blind man knew what he was talking about - probably had plenty of time listening to people walk past him - God listens to those who worship and obey him. He had the obeying part down - now it was time to get his spiritual, worship side aligned.

Why the son of man? Because that was the picture of who the Jews were waiting for - that the son of man would bring the kingdom of God down and rule over everything. The man was waiting and Jesus knew that it was the right connection piece between the healing, what the person was saying and the point which meant that the person would begin to worship Jesus.

Do you have eyes to see the spiritual openings in people's conversations?

It might be about family, community, purpose, time,

Are you ready to respond? Are you ready?

15 Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it.

Are you ready to explain the hope you have as a believer?

We have plenty of people that aren't Christians ask us about our lives - the only answer Jesus. Like how are we raising great kids - Jesus. How do we stay so patient with building we live in not going great - Jesus.

2. HELP OTHERS SEE JESUS

When we are sent by Jesus, we are ambassadors for Jesus who point to him as our lord and saviour, helping people to learn the life of worshiping Jesus.

36 The man answered, "Who is he, sir? I want to believe in him."

37 "You have seen him," Jesus said, "and he is speaking to you!"

38 "Yes, Lord, I believe!" the man said. And he worshiped Jesus.

John 9:36-38 NLT

Jesus pointed at himself, creating an example for us that we are people who point to Jesus as Lord and saviour of our lives.

The first part of the conversation, Jesus invites the man to think about what he believes - when Jesus finally points to himself as the son of man, the man's spiritual eyes are open and he sees Jesus as Lord - not even his disciples saw him as Lord yet - note that they called him Rabbi in the first part of the story.

This could happen anywhere? This didn't happen in the synagogue. This didn't happen in the church - The healed man was booted from the synagogue remember.

This man truly turns follow to Jesus and sees Jesus fully which is the what we want people to see - JESUS!

How do I share the message of reconciliation with people who are far from God to help them see God himself?

19 For God was in Christ, reconciling the world to himself, no longer counting people's sins against them. And he gave us this wonderful message of reconciliation.

2 Corinthians 5:19 NLT

Paul suggests here that we have this wonderful message of reconciliation - the restoration of friendly relations - between us and God. We get to do that.

This journey might not be a 1 conversation point - but the goal is for a person to follow Jesus not your system.

3. SEE WITH HUMILITY

When we are sent by Jesus, we must adopt the attitude of humility, that we are no more important than anyone else. The clear message is to not get blind with pride.

39 Then Jesus told him, "I entered this world to render judgment—to give sight to the blind and to show those who think they see that they are blind."

40 Some Pharisees who were standing nearby heard him and asked, "Are you saying we're blind?"

41 "If you were blind, you wouldn't be guilty," Jesus replied. "But you remain guilty because you claim you can see."

John 9:39-41 NLT

Jesus gives a warning at the end - the blind will see, and those that can see will remain blind.

The pharisees thought they could see, they thought they knew what the judgements were and what should take place. They thought throughout all this that they were right. In some small ways they were right - God should get the glory for this. But they were blind to the miracle and to seeing Jesus as the messiah.

In their sight, they were blind.

Pride is what they had. having or showing a high or excessively high opinion of oneself or one's importance. The challenge from Jesus is that God will leave them to their own self-chosen path of darkness. That's the judgement.

We have to see with humility - that we don't have a self inflated ego, but we see how are worth truly comes and our salvation is done in Jesus not ourselves.

If you remember from the sermon on the mount - the first part of it is the beatitudes and the need to recognise the we are spiritually poor and that we need Jesus. That's a picture of humility.

This whole story is a story of humility - that Jesus stops notices and dignifies the outcast - he shows worth to someone else where others might see sin. Jesus had the eyes of humility.

Jesus' humility is His willing surrender to the Father, His servant-hearted love toward people, and His self-giving life for the glory of God — and to have His humility is to live the same way: dependent, serving, sacrificial, and sent.

CONCLUSION

We've walked with Jesus the last 2 weeks watching how he's been sent by God into the life of one individual - the blind beggar.

This story was so much bigger than just a blind man receiving physical sight back - it was a man who learnt that Jesus was Lord and received spiritual sight, leading to worshipping Jesus.

You and I have a part to play in that. God invites us into his mission. God invites us to participate just the same way Jesus has demonstrated in this story.

Would we have eyes to see the image bearers, see God's power, see the kingdom breaking through, see the spiritual opening, point their sight to Jesus, and over the top of it all remain humble.

CONNECT GROUP QUESTIONS

1. If you had to tell someone in your life who Jesus is, what would you say?
2. What prevents you from sharing Jesus?
3. How do we stay humble in sharing the best news there is Jesus to a hurting world when we know it's the answer to all the problems?