

The Signs in John's Gospel

Week 6: Jesus heals a man born blind

WELCOME

Spend time relaxing and sharing together.

WORSHIP

Read one of the praise psalms (96, 100, etc.) Take a few moments of silence to pick out verses that you have been drawn to. The leader can then encourage people to read their verse as an act of worship and perhaps elaborate on why they were drawn to this verse.

Alternatively listen to a hymn/song.

WORD

Read John 9.1-12

1. What does the disciples' question' in v2 tell us about their understanding of people who are born with disabilities?

2. How does Jesus' response both correct their understand and at the same time reveal more about his mission?

Growth Group Notes

Spring 2021



3. After Jesus heals the man, “His neighbours and those who had formerly seen him begging” seem confused and even doubt that this is the same man (vv8-9). Why do you think this might be?

Read John 9.13-41

4. Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath.” (v16). How does the man defend the assertion that Jesus has come from God? (vv30-33)
5. Why do the pharisees respond by throwing the man out of the synagogue? (v34)
6. Why do you think that the pharisees don’t believe in Jesus?
7. Can you see how the blind man’s faith grows though this account?

The Signs in John's Gospel

WHAT NEXT?

For personal or group reflection

Jesus gave the man who was born blind physical sight and when he heard that the man had been thrown out of the synagogue, he sought him out to give him pastoral care and spiritual sight. The man was “born again” (John 3:3) and believed in and worshiped Jesus.

By contrast the Pharisees rejected the man, the miracle, Jesus, the Son of Man (see Daniel 7.13-14) and the Light of the World (v5). In so doing they rejected the shining of the Light upon them and plunged further into their darkness. They illustrate the perpetual truth of John 1:3-4 and the contemporary truth of 3:19–21.

Think of ways in which you can identify with the experience of the blind man both before and after his healing?

What or who are you spiritually blind to?

You may want to pray:

Jesus, the light of the world, open my eyes to see what you see, and give me the strength and wisdom to respond as you would respond. Amen.

Prayer Ministry and Intercession

Ask if anyone would like to be prayed for or have other prayer requests.