



Grace Notes

Guides for Personal Bible Study

He Cares; We Care: For the Sick

John 9:1-12,35-41: As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." Having said this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means Sent). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing. His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, "Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?" Some claimed that he was. Others said, "No, he only looks like him." But he himself insisted, "I am the man." "How then were your eyes opened?" they demanded. He replied, "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see." "Where is this man?" they asked him. "I don't know," he said. [Jesus] found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him." Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you." Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind." Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?" Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.

Points to Ponder

- **Read Romans 8:1.** Does God punish believers? Why or why not?
- Read John 9:3 again. According to Jesus' answer, why does God allow his believers to suffer disabilities and pain?
- Read verse 39. What is Jesus' main goal for taking on human flesh and coming to this world?
- How many people who are close to you suffer from disabilities? Have you seen any special or unusual ways that God has used those people not in spite of but because of their disability to give a more powerful testimony? What have they taught you, for instance?
- Read Isaiah 35. How does that chapter show that you will witness the miracle of John 9 on a grand scale?

The Bottom Line

Jesus used the miraculous healing of the blind man to bring the man closer to him and to reveal God's glory to witnesses of the event. God also uses our sicknesses, failings, and diseases to strengthen our faith and point us to the new bodies we will enjoy in heaven because of Jesus. We can use the difficulties we have in life as stepping off points for strong witness to others.

You can dig deeper into your Bible by reading more about these truths from the lesson:

- **The Blind See:** Psalm 119:18; Isaiah 35:4,5; John 8:12; John 12:46; Acts 26:17,18; Ephesians 5:8
- **Hope in Sickness:** Psalm 27:14; Psalm 91:1-16; John 14:1; Philippians 4:6; James 1:12; 1 Peter 5:7
- **New Bodies in Heaven:** 2 Corinthians 5:1; 1 John 3:2; Philippians 3:20,21; 1 Corinthians 15:51,52

TIME OF
GRACE
WITH PASTOR MARK JESKE

timeofgrace.org

800.661.3311