

March 3, 2024

## Sight to the Blind John 9 Pastor Kirk Gambrell

Vol. 14 Num. 9

### Using This Study

#### ❶ EXAMINE His Word

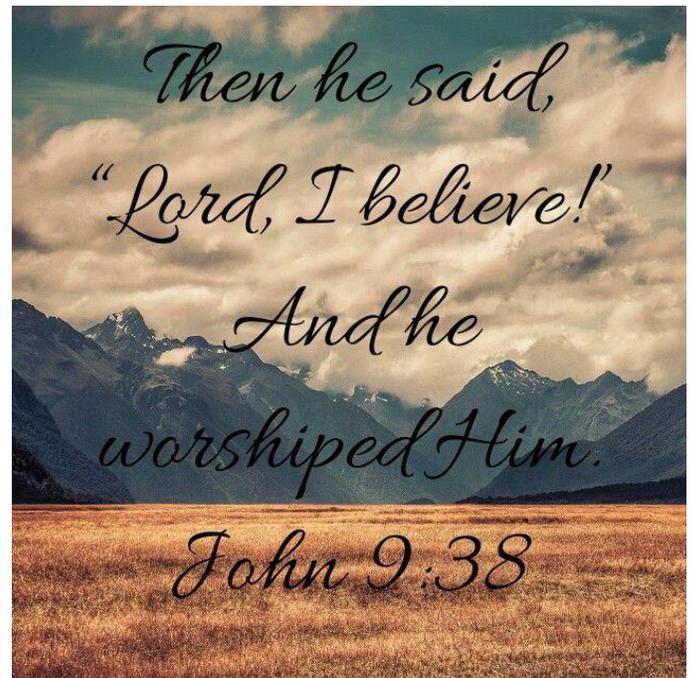
What does God SAY? Open your time with prayer. The words God uses to communicate matters, so go back and pay close attention to the details that are emphasized or repeated in the passage.

#### ❷ EXPLORE His Word

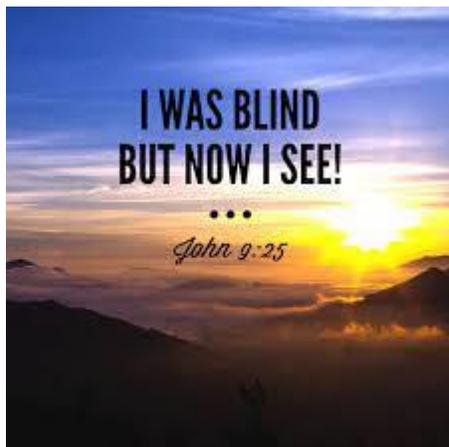
What does God MEAN? Asking questions of the text helps surface how the details relate to the message God wants to communicate.

#### ❸ EMBRACE His Word

Why does it MATTER to me? Embrace God by responding to what you discover in His word in faith and obedience.



John Chapter 9 is the passage where Jesus gives sight to the blind man. The man was physically blind but received great spiritual insight. The Pharisees had physical sight but were left spiritually blind. Join us this week as the Scriptures open our eyes and give us spiritual insight to the truths of Jesus, the Savior of the World.



## Healing a Man Born Blind

**9** Now as Jesus was passing by, he saw a man who had been blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who committed the sin that caused him to be born blind, this man or his parents?" <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but he was born blind so that the acts of God may be revealed through what happens to him. <sup>4</sup> We must perform the deeds of the one who sent me as long as it is daytime. Night is coming when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." <sup>6</sup> Having said this, he spat on the ground and made some mud with the saliva. He smeared the mud on the blind man's eyes <sup>7</sup> and said to him, "Go wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated "sent"). So the blind man went away and washed, and came back seeing.

<sup>8</sup> Then the neighbors and the people who had seen him previously as a beggar began saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" <sup>9</sup> Some people said, "This is the man!" while others said, "No, but he looks like him." The man himself kept insisting, "I am the one!" <sup>10</sup> So they asked him, "How then were you made to see?" <sup>11</sup> He replied, "The man called Jesus made mud, smeared it on my eyes and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and was able to see." <sup>12</sup> They said to him, "Where is that man?" He replied, "I don't know."

## The Pharisees' Reaction to the Healing

<sup>13</sup> They brought the man who used to be blind to the Pharisees. <sup>14</sup> (Now the day on which Jesus made the mud and caused him to see was a Sabbath.) <sup>15</sup> So the Pharisees asked him again how he had gained his sight. He replied, "He put mud on my eyes and I washed, and now I am able to see."

<sup>16</sup> Then some of the Pharisees began to say, "This man is not from God, because he does not observe the Sabbath." But others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such miraculous signs?" Thus there was a division among them. <sup>17</sup> So again they asked the man who used to be blind, "What do you say about him, since he caused you to see?" "He is a prophet," the man replied.

<sup>18</sup> Now the Jewish religious leaders refused to believe that he had really been blind and had gained his sight until at last they summoned the parents of the man who had become able to see. <sup>19</sup> They asked the parents, "Is this your son, whom you say was born blind? Then how does he now see?" <sup>20</sup> So his parents replied, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind. <sup>21</sup> But we do not know how he is now able to see, nor do we know who caused him to see. Ask him, he is a mature adult. He will speak for himself." <sup>22</sup> (His parents said these things because they were afraid of the Jewish religious leaders. For the Jewish leaders had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Christ would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> For this reason his parents said, "He is a mature adult, ask him.")

<sup>24</sup> Then they summoned the man who used to be blind a second time and said to him, "Promise before God to tell the truth. We know that this man is a sinner." <sup>25</sup> He replied, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. I do know one thing—that although I was blind, now I can see." <sup>26</sup> Then they said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he cause you to see?" <sup>27</sup> He answered, "I told you already and you didn't listen. Why do you want to hear it again? You people don't want to become his disciples

too, do you?"

<sup>28</sup> They heaped insults on him, saying, "You are his disciple! We are disciples of Moses! <sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses! We do not know where this man comes from!" <sup>30</sup> The man replied, "This is a remarkable thing, that you don't know where he comes from, and yet he caused me to see! <sup>31</sup> We know that God doesn't listen to sinners, but if anyone is devout and does his will, God listens to him. <sup>32</sup> Never before has anyone heard of someone causing a man born blind to see. <sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." <sup>34</sup> They replied, "You were born completely in sinfulness, and yet you presume to teach us?" So they threw him out.

### **The Man's Response to Jesus**

<sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, so he found the man and said to him, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup> The man replied, "And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?" <sup>37</sup> Jesus told him, "You have seen him; he is the one speaking with you." <sup>38</sup> [He said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said,] "For judgment I have come into this world, so that those who do not see may gain their sight, and the ones who see may become blind."

<sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and asked him, "We are not blind too, are we?" <sup>41</sup> Jesus replied, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin, but now because you claim that you can see, your guilt remains.

**● EXAMINE His Word (Observation)** (For personal preparation)

**What does God SAY? Prayerfully note significant details from this passage.**

Make 10 of your own observations from this passage. Avoid jumping to make interpretive decisions or drawing applications. Save those for the sections that follow. At this point just observe this passage and what it says. Look for things that are emphasized, repeated, and what stands out to you. Look at the verbs, what actions are in the text? Who is involved in the text? There is no right or wrong answer, just list 10 things you see in the text.

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**🕒 EXPLORE His Word (Interpretation)** (For Community Group discussion)  
**What does God MEAN?**

1. Why was the man born blind?
2. What does Jesus mean when He says the night is coming?
3. Why do you think Jesus continued to perform so many miracles on the Sabbath?
4. Why would the Pharisees say they know Jesus is a sinner?
5. Why did the Pharisees refuse to listen to the blind man? What does this tell us about them?
6. What does Jesus mean in verse 39? Who is gaining sight and who is becoming blind?
7. In verse 41 why does Jesus tie being guilty of sin to sight? Explain

