



Seeing God's Glory in Suffering



Explore how Jesus heals the man born blind, revealing God's glory through suffering, faith, and spiritual sight in John 9:1–41.



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Introduction

The story of Jesus healing the man born blind in John 9:1–41 is a remarkable passage demonstrating how suffering can become a platform for God's glory. In this account, Jesus encounters a man blind from birth, challenging the common belief that suffering is always punishment for sin. Instead, Jesus reveals that this man's situation was set to display the works of God. *This story invites us to look beyond our pain and limitations to see how God's power and purpose are at work.*

Throughout the Gospels, Jesus consistently shows compassion to the broken and marginalized, and His miracles symbolize deeper spiritual truths. The physical healing of blindness is also a metaphor for spiritual sight—coming out of darkness into light through faith in Christ. For anyone struggling with suffering or hardship, this passage is a powerful reminder that God's glory can shine most brightly when circumstances seem bleak.

Over the next seven days, we will journey through the entire healing narrative, uncovering insights about faith, spiritual blindness, perseverance, and grace. Each day will highlight different aspects of the story, helping you to see your own challenges in the light of Christ's love and sovereignty. Expect to be encouraged, challenged, and transformed as we realize that suffering does not define us—God's glory does.

Let's open our hearts to experience the healing power of Jesus, allowing our faith to grow as our spiritual eyes are opened. Together, we will discover how



God can use our personal struggles for His greater purposes and glory.





Day 1: 👁 The Question about Suffering



Your Verse

John 9:1–3 NIV – “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 works of God might be displayed in him.’”

Supporting Scriptures

- *Romans 8:28 – “And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him.”*
- *2 Corinthians 12:9 – “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.”*



Day 1: 👁 The Question about Suffering

Devotional: Suffering Opens the Door for God's Glory

Day 1 brings us face-to-face with a timeless question: Why do suffering and hardship happen? Jesus' disciples assume that sin is the cause of suffering, reflecting a common belief of that time. Yet, Jesus surprises them by clarifying that neither the man nor his parents sinned to cause this blindness. Instead, this circumstance was meant to display *God's works*. It challenges us to rethink how we view suffering—not as merely punishment, but as a stage on which God's glory can be revealed.

We often want simple answers to why we suffer. This passage teaches us to look beyond the immediate pain and ask, "How can God's power be shown through this?" Whether in physical pain, emotional distress, or spiritual struggle, God often uses our hardships to deepen our faith and showcase His grace.

Remember, suffering is not the end but a possible beginning of transformation. Take heart knowing that God's purpose is greater than our pain and that He works through every trial for the good of those who trust Him.



Reflect and Apply

1. How do you typically interpret suffering in your life or others' lives?

2. Can you think of a difficult time that ultimately revealed God's goodness?

3. In what areas of your life do you need to trust God to display His works through hardship?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time when you questioned why you or someone else suffered.

2. Reflect on how your view of suffering aligns or differs from Jesus' teaching in John 9:3.

3. List ways you can invite God to display His glory in your current struggles.



Day 1: 👁 The Question about Suffering

Prayer for Today

Lord, help me to see beyond my suffering and trust in Your perfect plan. Teach me to hold on to faith when answers seem unclear, and remind me that Your glory can shine through my weakest moments. Give me strength to persevere and eyes to recognize Your works in every situation. May my life reflect Your grace and power. Amen. 🙏 👁 💪 ✨





Day 2: Jesus Meets the Man



Your Verse

John 9:6–7 NIV – “After saying 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.’ So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.”

Supporting Scriptures

- *Mark 7:31 – “Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis.”*
- *Psalms 34:18 – “The Lord is close to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.”*



Devotional: Jesus Meets Us in Our Brokenness

On Day 2, we focus on the intimate encounter between Jesus and the man **born blind**. Jesus doesn't just heal from a distance; He makes mud with His saliva and applies it personally. This physical act shows his compassionate involvement in someone's brokenness. The man then is told to wash himself in the Pool of Siloam, a place associated with sending and being sent.

When the man obeys, his sight is restored. This reveals an important truth: healing often involves both God's action and our response in faith. Jesus initiates, but the man actively participates by going to the pool and washing. It's a beautiful picture of cooperation between divine grace and human participation.

Consider also the symbolism of the mud and washing. Mud can signify our imperfect, earthy condition, but God can transform it into something life-giving. Washing connects to themes of cleansing and renewal that run throughout Scripture.

Through this encounter, we see Jesus drawing near to our brokenness, meeting us right where we are, and inviting us into new life.



Reflect and Apply

1. How does Jesus' personal approach to healing encourage you in your struggles?

2. In what areas do you need to take a step of obedience to receive God's healing?

3. What might the mud and washing symbolize in your own spiritual journey?



Journaling Prompts

1. Describe a moment when you felt Jesus meeting you personally in your weakness.

2. Write about how obedience and faith worked together in a situation in your life.

3. Reflect on what being 'washed' by God means for you today.



Day 2: 🌍 Jesus Meets the Man

Prayer for Today

Dear Jesus, thank You for coming close and touching my brokenness. Help me to respond with faith, obeying Your guidance even when it requires stepping out. Renew my heart and mind, cleansing me from all that blinds me. May your healing presence restore my sight, both physical and spiritual.

Amen. 🙏💧❤️✨





Day 3: 🕵️ The Neighbors' Amazement and Doubt



Your Verse

John 9:8–12 NIV – “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 he was. Others said, ‘No, he only looks like him.’ But he himself insisted, ‘I am the man.’”

Supporting Scriptures

- *John 1:46 – “Can anything good come out of Nazareth?”*
- *Psalms 119:105 – “Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.”*



Day 3: 🗓️ The Neighbors' Amazement and Doubt

Devotional: Claiming Our New Identity in Christ

Day 3 explores the mixed reactions of the man's neighbors after his healing. Some were amazed, unable to believe this was the same man who was blind. Others doubted, suspecting deception or confusion. Yet, the man confidently asserts his identity, showing not only physical sight restored but a new spiritual boldness.

This part of the story reminds us that transformation often draws scrutiny and disbelief from others. When God moves in our lives, people may question or misunderstand our testimonies. Sometimes we too struggle with doubt or wonder whether we have truly changed.

Like the man, we must hold firmly to our identity and testimony in Christ. This passage encourages us to embrace our new sight and live confidently in the truth of what Jesus has done, regardless of others' opinions.

God's work in us is real and undeniable when we are willing to claim it boldly.



Reflect and Apply

1. How do you handle doubt or disbelief from others about your faith journey?

2. In what ways has God transformed your life that you can confidently share?

3. What steps can you take to strengthen your assurance of your identity in Jesus?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time you felt questioned or misunderstood for your faith.

2. Reflect on what it means to confidently declare your identity in Christ.

3. List ways your life has changed since encountering Jesus.



Day 3: 🐼 The Neighbors' Amazement and Doubt

Prayer for Today

Lord, give me boldness to stand firm in what You have done in my life. Help me not to be swayed by doubt or the opinions of others, but to be confident in my identity as Your child. May my life be a clear testimony of Your power and love. Amen. 💪 👥 👤 ✨





Day 4: ⚖️ The Pharisees' Investigation



Day 4: 📖 The Pharisees' Investigation

Your Verse

John 9:13–17 NIV – “They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man’s eyes was a Sabbath. So the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight.”

Supporting Scriptures

- *Matthew 12:10 – “And a man with a shriveled hand was there. Looking for a reason to bring charges, they asked Jesus, ‘Is it lawful to heal on the Sabbath?’”*
- *John 7:7 – “The world cannot hate you, but it hates me because I testify that its works are evil.”*



Devotional: Choosing Faith Over Legalism

Day 4 takes us into the tension-filled encounter between the healed man and the religious leaders. The Pharisees interrogate him, focusing on the fact that his healing happened on the Sabbath, which they considered a violation of the law. This sets up a clash between Jesus' demonstration of God's mercy and the legalistic rigidity of the Pharisees.

The man's simple testimony about Jesus' healing power confronts deeply entrenched religious traditions. The religious leaders are unable to deny the miracle but refuse to acknowledge its divine source due to their spiritual blindness and hard hearts.

This scene challenges us to examine where legalism or rigid thinking might prevent us from seeing God at work. It also invites us to trust in Jesus' authority and goodness even when faced with opposition or misunderstanding.

God's grace does not conform to human rules but transcends them, calling us to deeper faith and openness.



Reflect and Apply

1. Have you experienced or witnessed legalism blocking God's work?

2. How do you respond when your faith challenges societal or religious norms?

3. What can you learn from the healed man's simple yet firm testimony?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about a time you felt challenged to defend your faith.

2. Reflect on areas where legalistic thinking has affected your relationship with God.

3. Record how you can embrace grace even amid opposition.



Day 4: 📖 The Pharisees' Investigation

Prayer for Today

Jesus, help me to keep my eyes open to Your grace, beyond human rules. Give me courage to stand firm in faith when others question or criticize. Teach me to value compassion over tradition and to follow Your truth with boldness. Renew my heart to see Your work clearly. *Amen.* 🏛️ 📖 🛡️ 🙏





Day 5: 🕒 Spiritual Blindness Exposed



Your Verse

John 9:24–34 NIV – “He answered, ‘Whether he is a sinner or not, I don’t know. One thing I do know, I was blind but now I see!’”

Supporting Scriptures

- *2 Corinthians 4:18 – “So we fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen.”*
- *Isaiah 6:9 – “They may be ever hearing, but never understanding; they may be ever seeing, but never perceiving.”*



Day 5: 🕒 Spiritual Blindness Exposed

Devotional: From Physical to Spiritual Sight

Day 5 draws our attention to the profound contrast between physical sight and spiritual sight. The healed man boldly declares, “I was blind but now I see,” not only physically but spiritually, as he recognizes the reality of Jesus’ power. Meanwhile, the Pharisees remain blind to the truth, refusing to acknowledge Jesus despite the evidence.

This passage highlights that spiritual blindness is often more dangerous than physical blindness because it blinds people to salvation and truth. It also reminds us that a transformation of the heart is necessary to truly ‘see’ God.

We are called to fix our eyes on the unseen realities of faith, recognizing Jesus as the Light of the World. Just as the man made a decisive step into faith, we too must choose to move from spiritual darkness into the light.

Let us pray for clear spiritual vision and humility to accept Jesus’ healing touch.



Reflect and Apply

1. Where might you be experiencing spiritual blindness in your life?

2. How do you cultivate spiritual sight and understanding?

3. What steps can you take to deepen your awareness of God's presence?



Journaling Prompts

1. Reflect on moments when your faith journey brought new spiritual clarity.

2. Write about challenges that have hindered your spiritual sight.

3. List practical ways to stay focused on the unseen realities of God.



Day 5: 🕒 Spiritual Blindness Exposed

Prayer for Today

Lord, open my eyes to truly see Your truth and light. Remove any blindness within me that keeps me from recognizing Your work. Help me to trust in Your Word and walk in spiritual clarity every day. May my life reflect Your light to others. *Amen.* 👁️ ✨ 🙏 🕯️





Day 6: 🚪 Jesus Reveals His Identity



Your Verse

John 9:35–38 NIV – “Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, ‘Do you believe in the Son of Man?’ He answered, ‘Who is he, Lord? Tell me so that I may believe in him.’”

Supporting Scriptures

- *John 14:6 – ‘I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.’*
- *Revelation 3:20 – ‘Here I am! I stand at the door and knock.’*



Devotional: Encountering Jesus, the Son of Man

Day 6 highlights the moment Jesus personally reveals Himself as the Son of Man to the healed man. After the man is rejected by the religious leaders, Jesus seeks him out to offer a deeper revelation, asking if he believes in the Son of Man. This question is more than about physical healing—it's about spiritual faith and surrender.

The man's honest desire to know and believe mirrors the journey of many believers. Faith begins with a question and is nurtured through encounter and relationship.

Jesus invites each of us into this intimate relationship, asking us to trust Him as the source of sight, salvation, and life itself. His question challenges us to consider our own faith response.

Will we simply believe in what Jesus does, or will we fully embrace who He is?



Reflect and Apply

1. What does Jesus' question 'Do you believe in the Son of Man?' mean for you personally?

2. How has your faith journey been shaped by seeking to understand who Jesus is?

3. In what ways are you growing in trust and surrender to Jesus?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about your personal response to Jesus' question about belief.

2. Reflect on times when you felt Jesus drawing you closer in faith.

3. List ways you can deepen your relationship with Jesus today.



Day 6: 📖 Jesus Reveals His Identity

Prayer for Today

Jesus, help me to see You clearly and believe wholeheartedly. Reveal Yourself to me in fresh ways and deepen my faith. Teach me to trust You not just for miracles, but for my life and hope. May I follow You fully as my Lord and Savior. *Amen.* 🙏❤️👑🌟





Day 7: ✨ Living in the Light



Your Verse

John 9:39–41 NIV – “Jesus said, ‘For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.’”

Supporting Scriptures

- *Ephesians 5:8 – ‘For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord.’*
- *1 John 1:7 – ‘The blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.’*



Day 7: ✨ Living in the Light

Devotional: Walking Boldly in God's Light

On the final day, we consider Jesus' profound statement about sight and blindness. Jesus came so the spiritually blind may see, while those who claim to see but reject Him become truly blind. This is a call to authentic faith and humility.

Living in the light means walking in truth, grace, and love. It means acknowledging our need for Jesus and surrendering self-righteousness that can cloud vision. Those who embrace Jesus move from darkness into everlasting light.

As followers of Christ, we are called to live out our faith visibly and boldly, shining God's glory in our lives so that others might be drawn into the light as well. Our journey through this passage challenges us to continually examine our hearts, embrace healing, and bear witness to God's transforming power.

May we live in the fullness of the light Jesus offers and serve as testimonies of His glory.



Reflect and Apply

1. What does it mean for you to live as one who has moved from darkness into light?

2. Are there areas in your life where self-righteousness might be blinding you?

3. How can your life better reflect the glory of God to those around you?



Journaling Prompts

1. Write about ways you can walk more closely in the light of Christ daily.

2. Reflect on the impact of spiritual sight in your life and others'.

3. Plan concrete actions to be a light to your community and relationships.



Day 7: ✨ Living in the Light

Prayer for Today

Father, help me to live boldly in Your light and truth. Remove any pride or blindness from my heart that keeps me from fully following You. Use me as a vessel to display Your glory and lead others from darkness into Your marvelous light. Strengthen my faith and love each day. *Amen.* ✨ 🕯️ 🙏 ❤️





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