

## **Announcements 7/22/18**

**Baptism Service & Potluck** NEXT Sunday July 29th - at the Fellowship House...Please sign up for Pot Luck at back table.

Baptism at 11:30 AM, Potluck: NOON, Property Tour after

**Men's Breakfast** at Jalisco's, Brentwood, Sat. Aug. 4th, 8:30 A.M.

**Ice Cream Social** Sat Aug. 4th - at the Fellowship House from 1PM to 3:30 PM

Larry Quinnell is leading a men's and women's **Bible Study**, Wed. Eve from 6:30 to 7:45 P.M., Fellowship House, 1641 Bixler Rd. The Life of David. Nursery provided. Please contact Larry or Pily Quinnell, or Lois Van Buskirk.

Oakland A's **Baseball Faith Day**: Sat Sept. 8th at 1PM. We need at least 15 people to sign up to receive discounted tickets and free jerseys. A's players will share their testimonies following the game. Please sign up at back table.

**Girls Morning Out** will resume on September 8th

Please place your **Offerings & Tear Off Cards** in the boxes in back of the church. Also put any **prayer requests** on the tear-off portion of the card. Add your email address for a **weekly email**. Go to the church website at: [www.marinersdiscoverychurch.com](http://www.marinersdiscoverychurch.com) to keep up to date on all the latest information about our church. You can also sign up for our weekly email blast on the tear-off card.

When we are fearful, we can use scripture when we pray.

7 Signs in the Gospel of John.

Last week: Jesus walks on the water.

Our passage: John 9:1-41; Jesus heals a man born blind.

Our verse: John 9:3, Jesus answered, "It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents, but it was in order that the works of God might be displayed in him.

Bible deals with the hard issues in life.

- Suffering is hard.

- Temporary afflictions?

Suffering with a disability is hard.

- Costs:

- The challenge:

Where is Jesus taking this conversation?

Jesus sees the man born blind.

Knowing the cause cannot explain the meaning. Knowing the purpose can explain the meaning.

We ask the wrong question: "Who is at fault?"

We need to remember:

Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

All things?

We have to be willing:

Relationship with God has to be:

Jesus worked:

Sabbath

Controversy

5 Conversations:

- Beggar and the neighbors
- Beggar and the Pharisees
- Pharisees and the parents
- Beggar and the Pharisees
- Jesus and the beggar

Our take aways:

Jesus saw

Jesus is

Where are we on the arc

- Jesus is a good man.
- Jesus is a prophet.
- Jesus is the Son of Man; the Messiah of God.
- Jesus is my Lord and Savior, worthy of my worship.

God has a purpose

A right relationship with Jesus.

Jesus sought then, Jesus is seeking today.

## Using scripture when we pray, when we are anxious or afraid

- Philippians 4:7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all comprehension, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
- Psalm 34:18 The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.
- Joshua 1:9 "Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous! Do not tremble or be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go."
- Proverbs 12:25 Anxiety in a man's heart weighs it down, but a good word makes it glad.
- Psalm 56:3 When I am afraid, I will put my trust in You.
- 2 Timothy 1:7 For God has not given us a spirit of timidity, but of power and love and discipline.
- Isaiah 41:10 "Do not fear, for I am with you; Do not anxiously look about you, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, surely I will help you, Surely I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."
- Psalm 29:11 The Lord will give strength to His people; The Lord will bless His people with peace.
- Col 3:15 Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body; and be thankful.

## Our passage for today is: John 9:1-41

- Introduction to the Gospel of John.
  - Written by John, disciple of Jesus, son of Zebedee, Beloved disciple (humble).
  - May have known of the gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke. But is most intimate of the gospels.
  - May have taken some time to write, likely written towards the last quarter of the 1<sup>st</sup> century.
- Reason for writing and specifically for writing about signs:

John 20:30,31

*Therefore many other signs Jesus also performed in the presence of the disciples, which are not written in this book; but these have been written so that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God; and that believing you may have life in His name.*

John 21:25

*And there are also many other things which Jesus did, which if they were written in detail, I suppose that even the world itself would not contain the books that would be written.*

## John's telling of miracles in the gospel

- There are a total of about 35 miracles in the gospels.
- John is intentional in including the ones that he did.
- John tells 7 of the "signs."

## What are the seven signs?

- Changing water into wine at the wedding at Cana (Jn 2:1-11);
  - Servants obeyed and did what they could do.
  - Jesus did what only He can do.
- Healing the royal official's son (Jn 4:46-54);
  - Jesus heals from a distance.
  - Demonstrates faith beyond what he already knows and can see.
- Healing the paralyzed man at the pool of Bethesda in Jerusalem (Jn 5:1-15);
  - Jesus is Lord of the sabbath
  - Jesus still asks, "Do you want to get well?"
  - Following Jesus is more important than following religious rules.
- Feeding the 5,000 (Jn 6:1-15);
  - Jesus = Shepherd, God = Provider, Disciples = clueless, People are sign-seekers
  - "Instead of" rules.
    - Problems = opportunity to serve, Inadequates = opportunity to ask God, Challenges = Opportunity for God to be God
- Walking on water (Jn 6:14-30);
  - Our fears (nervousness, anxieties, terror) are guides / servants, but are not intended to be our masters.
  - Jesus still cares for us. Jesus is still with us. Jesus will keep us from permanent harm. With Jesus, we will get to where we are supposed to be.
  - God is always bigger than the storm. Always.
- Healing the man born blind (Jn 9:1-7);
- Raising Lazarus from the dead (Jn 11:1-45).

# John 9:3

Jesus answered, "It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents, but it was in order that the works of God might be displayed in him.

## John 9:1-12 (NASB) Jesus a man born blind

1 As He passed by, He saw a man blind from birth. 2 And His disciples asked Him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?" 3 Jesus answered, "It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him. 4 We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming when no one can work. 5 While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world." 6 When He had said this, He spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and applied the clay to his eyes. 7 and said to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went away and washed, and came back seeing. 8 Therefore the neighbors, and those who previously saw him as a beggar, were saying, "Is not this the one who used to sit and beg?" 9 Others were saying, "This is he," still others were saying, "No, but he is like him." He kept saying, "I am the one." 10 So they were saying to him, "How then were your eyes opened?" 11 He answered, "The man who is called Jesus made clay, and anointed my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash'; so I went away and washed, and I received sight." 12 They said to him, "Where is He?" He said, "I do not know."

## John 9:13-23 (NASB) Jesus heals a man born blind

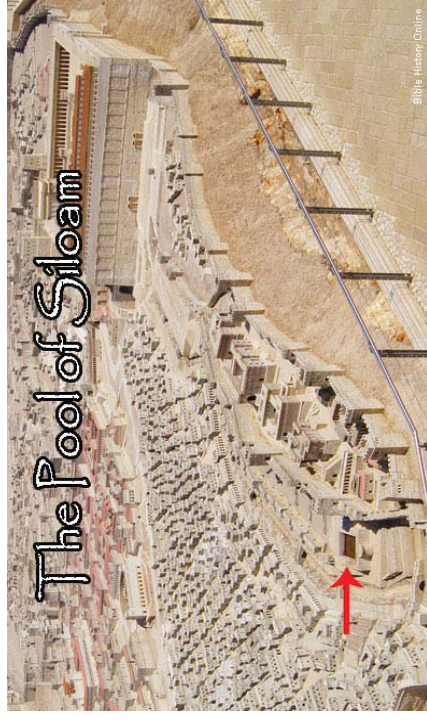
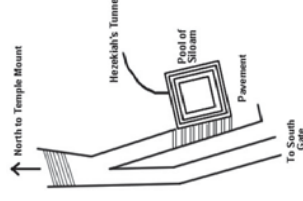
13 They brought to the Pharisees the man who was formerly blind. 14 Now it was a Sabbath on the day when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes. 15 Then the Pharisees also were asking him again how he received his sight. And he said to them, "He applied clay to my eyes, and I washed, and I see." 16 Therefore some of the Pharisees were saying, "This man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath." But others were saying, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And there was a division among them. 17 So they said to the blind man again, "What do you say about Him, since He opened your eyes?" And he said, "He is a prophet." 18 The Jews then did not believe it of him, that he had been blind and had received sight, until they called the parents of the very one who had received his sight, 19 and questioned them, saying, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? Then how does he now see?" 20 His parents answered them and said, "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; 21 but how he now sees, we do not know; or who opened his eyes, we do not know. Ask him; he is of age, he will speak for himself." 22 His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews; for the Jews had already agreed that if anyone confessed Him to be Christ, he was to be put out of the synagogue. 23 For this reason his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

## John 9:24-34 (NASB) Jesus heals a man born blind

24 So a second time they called the man who had been blind, and said to him, "Give glory to God; we know that this man is a sinner." 25 He then answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." 26 So they said to him, "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?" 27 He answered them, "I told you already and you did not listen; why do you want to hear it again? You do not want to become His disciples too, do you?" 28 They reviled him and said, "You are His disciple, but we are disciples of Moses." 29 We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where He is from." 30 The man answered and said to them, "Well, here is an amazing thing, that you do not know where He is from, and yet He opened my eyes. 31 We know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is God-fearing and does His will, He hears him. 32 Since the beginning of time it has never been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. 33 If this man were not from God, He could do nothing." 34 They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you teaching us?" So they put him out.

## John 9:35-41 (NASB) Jesus heals a man born blind

35 Jesus heard that they had put him out, and finding him, He said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" 36 He answered, "Who is He, Lord, that I may believe in Him?" 37 Jesus said to him, "You have both seen Him, and He is the one who is talking with you." 38 And he said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped Him. 39 And Jesus said, "For judgment I came into this world, so that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may become blind." 40 Those of the Pharisees who were with Him heard these things and said to Him, "We are not blind too, are we?" 41 Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would have no sin; but since you say, 'We see,' your sin remains."



Bible History Online



This represents the mound of soil that still covers the pool today. The top of this mound is someone's property. There are no buildings above it.



## Bible deals with the hard issues in life

- Not real in the midst of suffering, not real anywhere.
- Suffering is hard.
  - Soul says, "It ought not be so."
- Paul in 2 Corinthians 4:17, 18 called them temporary afflictions:
  - <sup>17</sup>For momentary, light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison, <sup>18</sup>while we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen; for the things which are seen are temporal, but the things which are not seen are eternal.
- Paul's list: 2 Corinthians 11:23-29
  - <sup>23</sup>Are they servants of Christ?—I speak as if insane—I more so; in far more labors, in far more imprisonments, beaten times without number, often in danger of death. <sup>24</sup>Five times I received from the Jews thirty-nine lashes. <sup>25</sup>Three times I was beaten with rods, once I was stoned, three times I was shipwrecked, a night and a day I have spent in the deep, <sup>26</sup>I have been on frequent journeys, in dangers from rivers, dangers from robbers, dangers from my countrymen, dangers in the city, dangers in the wilderness, dangers on the sea, dangers among false brethren; <sup>27</sup>I have been in labor and hardship, through many sleepless nights, in hunger and thirst, often without food, in cold and exposure. <sup>28</sup>Apart from such external things, there is the daily pressure on me of concern for all the churches. <sup>29</sup>Who is weak without my being weak? Who is led into sin without my intense concern?

## Suffering with a disability is hard

- Any disability is hard, and costs:
  - financially,
  - emotionally,
  - relationally.
- It seems neither light nor momentary.
- It strikes at the heart with regards to:
  - Self reliance
  - Personal control
  - Independence
- Once experienced, life is changed.
- Blessing for which we did not ask.
- Bible is seeped with sorrow and suffering.

## Where is Jesus taking this conversation?

- Vs 5: While I am in the world, I am the Light of the world.”
- Deliberately courting controversy
  - What is Jesus’ reason?
    - Clarifies where people stand with regards to who He is, and what He has come to do,
  - Man born blind
    - He has the arc of faith in this story.
  - Parents of the man born blind
    - We do not want any trouble.
  - Pharisees
    - Jesus is a sinner (blasphemy).
    - Vs 41 Jesus said to them, “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but since you say, ‘We see,’ your sin remains.

## Let’s walk through our story

- Jesus sees a man blind from birth (vs 1).
  - Does not avoid the issue.
  - Jesus’ engaging is what likely got the disciples engaging.
- Disciples see an opportunity to display some layman’s theology and ask a question (who sinned, this man or his parents?).
- Knowing a cause does not explain the meaning. Knowing the purpose can explain the meaning.
- Jesus’ response: You are asking the wrong question. It is not about cause (finger pointing). It is about the purpose of God (His glory).
- We need to remember, God is not surprised at what is going on.

## Romans 8:28 And we know that God causes all things to work together for good to those who love God, to those who are called according to His purpose.

- All things?
  - Even the mess? Even the pain?
- We have to be willing to confess our sins, declare our love, and hold on tight to Jesus, as our Rock and as our Redeemer.
- For this to have good effect, the relationship with God has to be the greatest treasure in our lives.
  - Being loved by God, being with God forever, someday with a Jesus body, has to be better for us than sight or even life itself in this world.
  - if we believe that, in the midst of the suffering, there can be comfort, wisdom, patience.
- The works of God around us, in us, for us, and through us has to be worth more to us than the years of suffering.
- We have to be able to declare as the Psalmist (63:3): Because Your lovingkindness is better than life, my lips will praise You.

Jesus spat, made mud, anointed the eyes, and said “Go wash...”

- Vs 4 “We must work the works of Him who sent me.”
- This sets the stage for everything that follows. It is controversial.
- Spitting on the Sabbath is forbidden (work).
- Forming mud into clay on the Sabbath is forbidden (work).
- This controversy has two ends:
  - Worship
  - Blasphemy

Conversations

- Beggar and the neighbors
- Beggar and the Pharisees
- Pharisees and the parents
- Beggar and the Pharisees
- Jesus and the beggar

## *John 9:3*

Jesus answered, “It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents, but it was in order that the works of God might be displayed in him.

Our Takeaways:

- Jesus saw the blind man.
- Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath.
- Where are we on the arc?
  - Jesus is a good man.
  - Jesus is a prophet.
  - Jesus is the Son of Man; the Messiah of God.
  - Jesus is my Lord and Savior, worthy of my worship.
- God has a purpose for everything that happens to us and with us.
- A right relationship with Jesus is the only way to find the meaning and that purpose.
- Jesus sought then, Jesus is still seeking today.