

sermonnotes

The Miracles of Jesus: Part 6



“But these things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have eternal life.”—John 20:31

The story of the man born blind is a story of man who had lived his entire life in darkness. His encounter with Jesus leads us to consider a different way of thinking. We should think of our dark times in a redemptive way, always asking how God can be glorified.

John 9:1–7

Changing Our Thinking About Dark Times

1. Dark Times provide an opportunity for the assurance that God is _____. (Vs. 1)
 - In our darkest times God sees us and is at work in us.
 - God comes to us in our darkness when we can't see our way to Him.
2. Dark times are best seen as _____ for God to work a miracle. (Vs. 2–3)
 - Instead of demanding an explanation, allow God's divine purpose to be revealed.
 - Instead of asking, “Why is this happening?” ask, “What does God want to do?”

3. Dark times allow us to _____ God's purpose for sending Jesus into the world. (Vs. 5)
 - Jesus came to bring His transforming light into our dark times.
 - God will use our dark times to reveal the greatness of His life-giving power.
4. Dark times allow us to see that God is _____ in the way He works miracles. (Vs. 6)
 - God's miracle of bringing light into darkness is a matter of faith, not formula.
 - The means by which the miracle takes place overrides the actions by which it occurs.
5. Dark times provide opportunities for us to respond to God with _____ actions. (Vs. 7)
 - The blind man would not have received his sight if he not responded by washing.
 - When we respond to God with faith-filled actions His light can overwhelm our darkness.

“Whenever you see a man in sorrow or trouble, the way to look at it is, not to blame him and inquire how he came there, but to say, here is an opening for God's almighty love. Here is an occasion for the display of the grace and goodness of the Lord.”—Spurgeon

Answers: aware; opportunities; experience; creative; faith-filled



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GOING DEEPER

Read John 9:1-7

In verse 2, the disciples ask Jesus why this man was born blind. They wonder if the reason was the man's sin or his parent's sin.

Can you remember a dark time in your life when you asked God why?

Did you consider whether you were being punished because of sin?

Jesus responds in verse 3, "this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him."

In this particular biblical account, Jesus would show his power by healing the man. By what other means could "the works of God be displayed" in our dark times?

Does Jesus' response change your view of seasons of suffering? How?

There is a popular quote that says, "God does his greatest work in our darkest moments." Do you believe that is true?

THE MIRACLES OF JESUS

