



Sermon Discussion Questions: Mar. 27-28, 2021

Title: Holy Spit

Text: John 9:1-41

Target: The way Jesus heals the blind man reveals that He is unconventional to the conventional, unorthodox to the orthodox, and irrelevant to the relevant, all in the name of love.

Getting Started

Question #1: Before you dive into Pastor Ed's notes, read verses 1-3. Jesus explains to His disciples that this man was not born blind because of his or his parents' sin, but so that God may be glorified in him. We understand here that God uses the brokenness in our lives to display His glory. Is there a time that you saw God use brokenness in your life for His glory? Is there brokenness in your life currently? How do these few verses change your perspective on this brokenness? Remember that God uses all things together for the good of those who love Him (Romans 8:28)!

I. Importance of the Mission:

- A. **Focus on Priority:** "We **must** work the works of Him who sent me while it is day." (Vs. 4a)
- B. **Sense of Urgency:** "...night is coming, when no one can work." (Vs. 4b)
- C. **Presence is Necessary:** "As long as I am in the world, I am the **light** of the world." (Vs. 5)

Question #2: We see here that the highest priority in our life *must* be our mission, which is laid out for us in Matthew 28:18-20: to go and "*make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.*" We also see in verses 4-5 that we are to live with a sense of *urgency* when it comes to our mission! Jesus was anticipating His death on the cross when he mentioned the night, but we live with a sense of urgency in anticipation of His return! Matthew 5:16 says, "*let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.*" Where in the world do you get to be light, and who in your circle of influence is not a disciple of Jesus? How can you be a light to them this week?

II. Implementation of the Miracle:

- A. **Formed the Clay:** "*Having said these things, He spit on the ground, and made mud with the saliva.*" (6a)
- B. **Applied the Clay:** "*Then he **anointed** the man's eyes with the mud.*" (Vs. 6b)
- C. **Go Wash the Clay:** "*And said to him, Go, wash in the pool of **Siloam, (which means Sent)**.* So he went and washed and came back seeing." (Vs. 7)

Question #3: Verse 14 informs us that Jesus did this miracle on a Sabbath day. We've seen this before, but this time, He did something that was specifically prohibited by one of the 39 rules the Pharisees had made up (kneading clay)! Jesus once again challenges the legalism of the religious elite, and He challenges any legalism we live by today. Have you ever seen legalism stop you or someone else from being a light to others? Share this situation with your group and ask yourself where in your life you might be trying to earn God's favor by following rules, rather than living out of God's favor and grace!

III. **Investigation of the Mystery:**

- A. **From the People:** "The **neighbors** and those who had seen him before as a beggar were saying, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" (Vs. 8)
- B. **From the Pharisees:** "They brought to the **Pharisees** the man who had formerly been blind." (Vs. 13)
- C. **From the Parents:** "The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight, until they called the **parents** of the man who had received his sight." (Vs. 18)

Question #4: In verse 25, the previously blind man says, "though I was blind, now I see." The allusion to the gift of salvation is incredible! Though we were blind, we now see! Discuss with your group how you saw this in your life when you began following Jesus. Who were you before, and who are you now?

IV. **Indignation of the Moment:** "He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? **Do you also want to become his disciples?**" (Vs. 27)

- A. **They Reviled him:** "And they **reviled** him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses." (Vs. 28)
- B. **He Ridiculed them:** "The man answered, "Why, this is an amazing thing! You do not know where he comes from, and yet he opened my eyes." (Vs. 30)
- C. **They Rejected him:** "They answered him, "You were born in utter sin, and would you teach us?" And they **cast him out.** (Vs. 34)

Question #5: Because this man is so in awe of Jesus and what He's done for him, he is reviled and rejected. And despite the hostility he experiences, he proceeds to give his life to Jesus, because as we were reminded last week, *nothing compares to Jesus*. Have you ever been reviled or rejected because of your awe and wonder of Christ? What did you learn from the experience, and how can you encourage others who might face the same challenges?

- V. **Invitation of Mercy:** “Jesus heard that they had cast him out, and having **found him** he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?” (Vs. 35)
- A. **More than a Confession:** “He answered, “And who is he, sir, that I may believe in him?” Jesus said to him, “You have seen him, and it is he who is speaking to you.” He said, “**Lord, I believe,**” **and he worshiped him.**” (Vs. 36-38)
- B. **Moment of Connection:** Jesus said, “For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and **those who see may become blind.**” (Vs. 39)

Question #6: We are reminded once again, that the *evidence* of Jesus is hidden in plain sight, and many will not see it, for we are born into spiritual blindness just as the man was born into physical blindness. It is only through the work and power of Jesus that we may see the signs! Think back over the past and present of your life. Where have you seen the *evidence* of Jesus? Have you shared the evidence with others so that they may see too?

Takeaway: “The only thing worse than being blind is having sight with no vision” - Helen Keller