

# Under Truth's Gaze, Part 4: Improving Your Spiritual Vision

John 9 – St. Andrew's Anglican Church \* March 13, 2005

**John 14:6** - (Jesus said) "I am... the truth..."

**John 8:12** – (Jesus said) "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

**The Miracle: John 9:1-7** - <sup>1</sup>As (Jesus) went along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup>His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"  
<sup>3</sup>"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the work of God might be displayed in his life. <sup>4</sup>As long as it is day, we must do the work of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup>While I am in the world, I am the light of the world."  
<sup>6</sup>Having said this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. <sup>7</sup>"Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means Sent). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

## Two needs revealed in a blind man's encounter with truth...

### Need #1: ...to see yourself as BLIND from BIRTH.

**John 9:39** - <sup>39</sup>Jesus said, "For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind."

**Mark 9:40** - (Jesus) ...whoever is not against us is for us.

#### The Pharisees' logic:

**Major Premise:** All people from God keep the Sabbath.

**Minor Premise:** Jesus does not keep the Sabbath.

**Therefore...** Jesus is not from God.

**John 9:40-41** <sup>40</sup>Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, "What? Are we blind too?" <sup>41</sup>Jesus said, "If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.

#### **The healed man's journey of faith:**

**(v. 11)** – "The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see."

**(v. 17)** – "He (Jesus) is a prophet."

**(v. 25)** – "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"

**(v. 30)** – "If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."

**(Jesus to the man, v. 35)** – "Do you believe in the Son of Man?"  
**(v. 35-37)** "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him." <sup>37</sup>Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you. <sup>38</sup>Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.

### Need #2: ...to major on what's REVEALED not what's HIDDEN.

**Neighbors:** (v. 10) – "How then were your eyes opened?" they demanded.

**Pharisees:** (v. 15) – Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight.

**Pharisees to the parents:** (v. 19) – How is it that now he can see?

**Pharisees to the man:** (v.26) "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?"

Translation key: All verses are from the New International Version.