

LONGER VERSION OF THIS SERMON - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ntlw9TiXh-s>

INTRO // Welcome to Faith Students! We are so glad that you are here! Tonight we are continuing our series called “BOOK OF JOHN”. The Book of John was written by the apostle John to help the early Christian church understand one big truth... “**JESUS IS GOD!**”, by sharing with them the teachings and miracles of Jesus that he saw with his own eyes.

Tonight we are going to look at a true story of a time that Jesus changed a man’s life forever. So open up your Streetlights Bible to Page _____ and go to John chapter 9. But before we start reading...

TENSION // **As a follower of Jesus it is EASY to play the part.**

- We can ‘LOOK’ like Jesus (Wear the clothes, WWJD bracelet. Put a bible verse in your social media bio...)
- We can TALK like Jesus (I’m blessed and highly favored. Amen! Funny phrases only Christians say)
- We can EAT like Jesus! (Chic Fil A! Except on Sundays)

But, something that we cannot fake is SEEING like Jesus....

IT’S EASY TO “LOOK THE PART” BECAUSE THOSE THINGS CAN ALL BE PROJECTED, CREATED FOR OTHERS TO NOTICE. BUT HOW WE SEE IS ONLY TRULY KNOWN BY OURSELVES AND THE LORD.

Growth in the walk of a Christian/follower of Jesus can be seen by the way that we love others. And the way we love others is dependent on the way we see them.

- If we SEE somebody as a sinner who deserves to pay the price for their choices... we won’t love them by offering forgiveness and hope.
- If we SEE somebody as loser who we cannot be seen with... we won’t love them by offering friendship.
- If we SEE somebody as broken and unfixable... we won’t love them by being patient with them as they grow..

The lense in which we look at the world through will dictate how we respond to the people around us. In the scripture today, there is a man who is broken, looked down upon in society, and Jesus’s followers SEE the man one way and Jesus SEES the man another way. Let’s dive in and see how we can SEE like Jesus.

SCRIPTURE // **John 9 - Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind**

As Jesus was walking along, **HE SAW** a man who had been blind from birth. ²“Rabbi,” his disciples asked him, **“why was this man born blind? Was it because of his own sins or his parents’ sins?”**

3 “It was not because of his sins or his parents’ sins,” Jesus answered. “This happened so the power of God could be seen in him. 4 We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. The night is coming, and then no one can work. ⁵ But while I am here in the world, I am the light of the world.” ⁶ Then **HE spit on the ground, made mud** with the saliva, and spread the mud over the blind man’s eyes. ⁷ He told him, “Go wash yourself in the pool of Siloam” (Siloam means “sent”). So, the man went and washed and came back seeing!

// PRAYER //

TO SEE LIKE JESUS WE MUST...

KEY #1 // CHOOSE TO LOOK PAST THE OBSTACLES AND LOOK AT THE OPPORTUNITIES

WHAT THE DISCIPLES SAW:

- A blind man. Brokenness.
- Someone of low social class. Anyone who had a disability was looked at as less than the rest of society.
- Someone God was punishing. Many believed sickness such as blindness was a punishment by God due to their sin.
- An unchangeable condition.

Very often we look at people the same way as the disciples...

SKID ROW - PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

- I grew up being warned about giving to homeless people. “You don’t know what they’ll do with your money. They’re probably homeless because of the bad decisions they’ve made. They’ll waste your money on drugs and alcohol...”
- I saw people according to their condition. Not according to their humanity.
- I went on a missions trip to the LA DREAM CENTER to minister to homeless people.
- At the LA Dream Center, they told us that they aren’t ‘HOMELESS PEOPLE’ they are ‘PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS’.
- Walking skid row. Meeting the people. Hearing their stories. Praying with them. It changed for me that day.

A DISCIPLE OF JESUS RECOGNIZES THE CONDITION BUT IS MORE CONCERNED ABOUT THE CURE.

Vs 4 – 4 We must quickly carry out the tasks assigned us by the one who sent us. ‘

WE indicates that Jesus wants to involve us in the healing process.

JESUS IS TELLING THE DISCIPLES TO TAKE THEIR EYES OFF OF THE PROBLEMS THEY SEE IN OTHERS AND FOCUS ON THE POSSIBILITIES OF WHAT GOD COULD DO IN AND THROUGH THEM!

HOW CAN WE MAKE SPACE FOR JESUS TO DO A MIRACLE IN PEOPLE LIVES AROUND US?

1. **MAKE SPACE FOR DIALOGUE.** Are you willing to talk to people that are different than you?
2. **MAKE SPACE FOR GRACE.** Pray that God would soften your heart towards those whose political beliefs are not the same as yours.
3. **MAKE SPACE FOR GENEROSITY.** Do you have a hold of your money or does your money have a hold on you?

VS. 1 “As Jesus was walking along, HE saw...”

Jesus was the FIRST to see the man. Yet, Jesus was not busy worrying about who's fault it was that he was blind. Jesus was busy making room for a miracle to happen in that man's life.

Jesus was also the first to see us!

And PRAISE GOD, Jesus did not focus on our fallen sinful nature. He stepped out of the comfort of heaven and made space for a miracle to take place in our lives.

TO SEE LIKE JESUS WE MUST...

KEY #2 // CHOOSE TO NOT FOCUS ON THE MESS AND CELEBRATE THE MIRACLE (MENDING)!

TELL THE REST OF THE STORY... 9:8-34

The saddest parts of the story is the Pharisees response...

They were ok with the miracle as long as it happened the way they wanted

- Happened on the Sabbath. It was against the LAW.
- Muddy and Messy.

ILLUSTRATION // Tell a story of a time you celebrated something happening on behalf of others.

- EX: my illustration would be the time we through a party for Timmy as a baby when he finally pooped out a penny he had swallowed.

APPLICATION // LETS BE KNOWN BY HOW WE CELEBRATE!

- God is a Father who celebrates every lost son or daughter coming home.

- He leaves the 99 for the 1! Let's join in with the Father and welcome the lost home.
- Faith Students should be the 1 place in this city that any teenager can come, find love, find truth, find healing and find grace. We celebrate ANYONE who comes to Jesus!

ENCHROMA GLASSES (VIDEO)

FIND FAVE CLIPS FROM THIS: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qRerkhaY53k>

- When we take off the glasses of looking through fleshly eyes and judging others and put on the eyes of Christ, seeing the possibilities in the world around us we begin to see just how beautiful the people are around us.

**WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF WE CHOSE TO SERVE STUDENTS
INTENDING TO SEE THE THEM LIKE JESUS SEES THEM?**

**HOW DO WE DO IT? WE KEEP OUR EYES ON THE LORD.
HERE IS HOW JESUS DID IT...**

JOHN 5:19 - Jesus gave them this answer: "Very truly I tell you, the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing, because whatever the Father does the Son also does."

As we run this race let's fix our eyes on Jesus! The author and perfecter of our faith!

**IF YOU'VE TRULY MET JESUS THAN YOUR LIFE SHOULD
LOOK TRULY DIFFERENT!**

Vs. 25 - "But I know this: I was blind, and now I can see!"

AN MOMENT WITH JESUS CHANGES EVERYTHING!