



# *Walking With the Savior*

## *Through An Eyewitness Account of John*

**John**, one of the sons of Zebedee, stood as an eyewitness to the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. He began his journey as a fisherman, leaving behind his nets and the future he had planned for himself to follow a teacher, a prophet, and a miracle worker. At the outset, John did not fully understand who Jesus was or what lay ahead. In faith, he aligned himself with Jesus, drawn by His words and deeds.

As John walked alongside Jesus, witnessing His teachings and miracles, he gradually realized that Jesus was far more than a prophet or a remarkable teacher. John came to understand that Jesus was God in the flesh. This revelation was not just a turning point for John personally, but a moment of eternal significance. By choosing to follow Jesus, John's future was forever changed, and his decision would go on to impact the world—not only in his own time but throughout every generation to come. ***Let's embark on an inspiring journey with John as we walk alongside Jesus.***

## *Background Matters*

9:1. **As He went along** in the city of Jerusalem, Jesus **saw a man** with congenital blindness. Jesus' choice of this individual is significant (cf. 5:5–6). He is Sovereign in His works. That the man was **blind from birth** pointed out his seeming hopelessness. This illustrates man's spiritual blindness from birth (9:39–41; 2 Cor. 4:4; Eph. 2:1–3).

9:2–3. The **disciples** faced a theological problem. Believing that sin directly caused all suffering, how could a person be *born* with a handicap? Therefore either **this man ... sinned** in his mother's womb (Ezek. 18:4) **or his parents** sinned (Ex. 20:5). **Jesus** therefore answered, **Neither this man nor his parents sinned**. These words do not contradict the universal sinfulness of man (cf. Rom. 3:9–20, 23). Instead Jesus meant that this man's blindness was not caused by some *specific* sin. Instead the problem existed **so that ... God** could display His glory in the midst of seeming tragedy (cf. Ex. 4:11; 2 Cor. 12:9).

9:4–5. **Day** means the time allotted for Jesus to do God's will (to **do the work of Him who sent Me**). **We** includes the disciples and by extension all believers. **Night** is the limit set to do God's works. In Jesus' case it was His coming death. As **the Light of the world** Jesus gives people salvation (cf. 8:12).



After His death, His disciples would be His lights (cf. Matt. 5:14; Eph. 5:8–14), bringing Christ to others.

9:6–7. Jesus placed clay (**mud with ... saliva**) **on the man's eyes**. Interestingly man was made from this same substance—the dust of the earth (Gen. 2:7). Jesus probably used the clay as an aid to develop the man's faith, not as a medicine. Jesus' making of clay broke the Rabbinic regulations against kneading clay on the Sabbath (cf. John 9:14). Jesus then **told** the man, **Wash in the pool of Siloam (this word means Sent)**. This is located at the southeast corner of Jerusalem (see the map), where Hezekiah's tunnel channeled water inside the city walls from the Gihon Spring. The man was "sent" there and Jesus was the One "sent" by the Father. **The man ... washed and went home seeing!**

9:8–9. People argued over whether he was **the same man who used to sit and beg**. If so, it was incredible that he could see. Perhaps, they said, it was a case of mistaken identity. **But he himself insisted, I am the man.**

9:10–12. But if he were the same man, **how** was this possible? He gave a simple and factual account of how the miracle occurred. He referred to the Lord as **the Man they call Jesus**. Since he was blind at the time of the miracle, he had no idea **where** Jesus went.<sup>1</sup>

## **This week in "Walking With the Savior"**

*As Jesus walked by, he saw a man who had been blind since birth. His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned: this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned. This happened so that the works of God could be shown in him."*

*Throughout history, blind people have often needed help from public charity. Many found support in the community near the temple, known for its kindness. When the disciples left the temple, they met the blind man. Many Jewish scholars believed that suffering, like blindness, was caused by sin or by the actions of ancestors. However, Jesus changed this belief. He taught that challenges can serve a greater purpose—bringing glory to God. This message gives us hope and reminds us that every difficulty can lead to valuable insights or blessings in our lives.*

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<sup>1</sup> Edwin A. Blum, "John," in *The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures*, ed. J. F. Walvoord and R. B. Zuck, vol. 2 (Wheaton, IL: Victor Books, 1985), 307–308.



## **Study Guide 29**

*This study guide presents daily assignments that are specifically crafted to enhance your growth in the Word. Embrace each moment to meditate and reflect, and watch as your spiritual maturity flourishes through your dedicated efforts.*

### **Jesus Brings Purpose to Suffering**

*The Healing of a Man Born Blind*

**John 9:1–12**

**Open It, Mondays.** Open your heart and mind to the truth of the Word.

1. What goes through your mind when you see a disabled person?

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**Explore It, Tuesdays,** keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

2. How long had the man Jesus saw been blind? (9:1)

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3. \*What question did Jesus' disciples ask Him about the blind man's condition? (9:2)

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4. \*Why had this man been born blind? (9:3)

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5. What did Jesus say that they should be doing as long as it is day? (9:4)

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6. What did Jesus claim to be? (9:5)

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7. What did Jesus put on the blind man's eyes? (9:6)

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8. What happened to the blind man? (9:7)

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**Push on Wednesday,** keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

9. How did the blind man's neighbors respond to his new condition? (9:9)

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10. What question did the blind man's neighbors ask him? (9:10)

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11. \*How did the blind man answer his neighbors' question? (9:11)

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What did the man's neighbors want to know? (9:12)

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12. How do our sins affect us physically or emotionally?

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13. How do our sins affect others?

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14. With what condition were you born so that God might be glorified?

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**Get It Thursdays,** keep the rhythm of personal study moving.



15. Through what disability or weakness can you glorify God?

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16. What work has God given you to do while you still have time?

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17. \*In what way has God healed you?

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18. \*In what ways are we spiritually blind?

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19. From what “blindness” has God healed you?

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20. How did your family and friends respond when you put your faith in Christ?

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**Drive it Home, Fridays,** keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

21. \*Through what shortcoming in your life will you ask God to glorify Himself today?

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22. For what healing in your life will you praise God today?

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*A Journey Through The Gospel of John **2026***

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