



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

9:30–33. The beggar proceeded to teach them since they admitted ignorance of Jesus' origin. The irony is strong for the reader knows His origin (1:14, 18). According to the beggar's logic, this miracle was notable and unique. He said that no one had **ever heard of ... a man born blind** receiving sight. He reasoned that **God** grants **not** the requests of **sinners** but those of the righteous (cf. Elijah, James 5:16–18). Therefore **this Man**, he said, is **from God**. Otherwise He could do no miracles.

9:34. Upstaged by a beggar, they could only insult him again and throw **him out** of the synagogue (cf. v. 22). They reasoned that his blindness must have been due to some specific "sin" (they forgot the Book of Job). But they were irrational. How could anybody be **steeped in sin at birth**? Everybody is born with a sinful nature (Ps. 51:5; Rom. 5:12), but a baby can hardly commit numerous acts of sin moments after it is born!

9:35. Taking the initiative again (cf. v. 6), **Jesus** found the former blind man. **Do you** (emphatic in the Gr.) **believe in the Son of Man?** This was a call to commitment. "Son of Man"



is a title of Messiah which includes a rich background (cf. Dan. 7:13; and comments on Mark 2:10).

9:36–37. The beggar responded that he was willing to **believe** but he was ignorant. **Jesus** then disclosed Himself and gave the beggar the necessary knowledge for faith. Faith involves an act of the will, based on information.

9:38. After Jesus revealed that *He* is the Son of Man, **the man** responded in faith (**Lord, I believe**) and **worshiped Him**. His worship of Jesus replaced his worship in the synagogue. The Jews had cast him out of the synagogue, but Jesus does not cast out those who come to Him (6:37). One goal of salvation is worship of the One who saves (4:23).

9:39. Does this verse contradict 3:17? According to that verse (and 12:47) Jesus was *not* sent “to condemn the world.” But here Jesus said, **For judgment I have come into this world**. Jesus meant He came to pronounce decisions on the ungodly, like a judge (cf. 5:22, 27). **The blind** who come to sight are those who, admitting their helplessness and inability, trust Jesus for salvation. **Those who see and become blind** are those whose self-trust and pride blinds them to the wonders of Jesus. He does not condemn them by *making* them blind; they blind themselves by rejecting Him and Satan contributes to that blinding (2 Cor. 4:4).

9:40–41. **Some** of the **Pharisees ... asked**, literally, “**We also are not blind**, are we?” They expected a negative answer because they assumed that certainly they, of all men, possessed spiritual perception. Sin constantly deceives people so they live in falsehood. **Jesus** replied, **If the Pharisees were blind** to spiritual things absolutely, they might have claimed ignorance as a defense. But their claims and pretensions of spiritual insight (**you claim you can see**) and leadership made them culpable. They were responsible for their sins because they sinned willfully. It is dangerous to be a teacher of spiritual truths (cf. 3:10; Rom. 2:19–24; James 3:1).¹

The Condition of Spiritual Blindness

Spiritual blindness means not recognizing Christ or seeing God (Colossians 1:15–16; 2 Corinthians 4:6). This blindness is serious and affects those who do not believe in God, Jesus Christ, or His teachings (Romans 2:8; 2 Thessalonians 2:12).

People who reject Christ are considered lost (John 6:68–69). By staying spiritually blind, they face the danger of perishing (2 Corinthians 4:3–4; Revelation 3:17). They choose to ignore Christ's teachings and His authority in their lives (Matthew 28:18). As a result, they cannot see God's presence in Scripture and through Jesus Christ (John 1:1; Acts 28:26–27). Scripture describes them as individuals who cannot accept the Spirit of God, finding it foolishness and unable to understand because it requires spiritual insight (1 Corinthians 2:14).

¹ 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), 308–309.



Peter warned of these individuals, calling them “scoffers [who] will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires” (2 Peter 3:3; see also Proverbs 21:24; Jude 1:18). Those who reject Christ and His Word are spiritually blind and cannot grasp scriptural truth. To them, the truth seems foolish (Isaiah 37:23; 1 Corinthians 1:18). The Bible calls those denying God fools (Psalm 14:1; Matthew 7:26). Their blindness and rejection of God and His Word put them in a dangerous, unsaved state (John 12:48; Hebrews 2:2-4).

The spiritually blind struggle to understand God’s Word (Matthew 13:13; Deuteronomy 29:4). Jesus said, “If you love Me, you will keep My commandments. I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, to be with you forever, even the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees Him nor knows Him. You know Him, for He dwells with you and will be in you” (John 14:15-17). Paul echoed this to believers in Rome, saying, “Those who are in the flesh cannot please God. You, however, are not in the flesh but in the Spirit, if in fact, the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to Him” (Romans 8:8-9). Those outside of Christ do not belong to God, as their lives are focused on worldly pleasures, blinding them to the Spirit of God. John wrote, “If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him,” noting that their love “is from the world” (1 John 2:15-16).

The Bible clearly shows the cause of spiritual blindness: “In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God” (2 Corinthians 4:4). Paul refers to Satan as the “god of this world.” He is very evil (John 8:44), harms people (1 Corinthians 5:5), pretends to be good (2 Corinthians 11:14), and causes temptation (Luke 4:2; Hebrews 4:15; 1 Corinthians 7:5). Satan wants to trap those who do not believe (2 Corinthians 2:11; Ephesians 6:11; 2 Timothy 2:26). His goal is to destroy those who are weak, leading them into temptation, fear, loneliness, worry, depression, and persecution (1 Peter 5:8-9).

When we are without God and rely only on ourselves, we can easily fall for Satan’s tricks. *Jesus told the religious leaders that they were spiritually blind, and that their father was the Devil, and their actions reflected his actions.*

This week in "Walking With the Savior," *In His teachings, Jesus provides a powerful illustration of what true blindness really means. He specifically directs His message toward the Religious*



Leaders of His time, highlighting their refusal to see and accept the truth of His message. Despite their extensive knowledge of the scriptures and their positions of authority, these leaders chose to challenge Jesus' teachings and question His authority, revealing not only their spiritual blindness but also their inability to recognize the significance of His mission. Through this confrontation, Jesus emphasizes that genuine understanding and insight come from openness to truth, rather than rigid adherence to tradition.

Study Guide 31

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.

OVERCOMING SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS

John 9:35-41

Acceptance, Believe, Faith, Jesus Christ, Judgment, Religion, Sin, World, Worship

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

1. *What person outside your family has had the biggest impact on your life?

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

2. What had Jesus heard? (9:35)

3. *What did Jesus ask the man who had been blind? (9:35)



4. Why did the blind man ask Jesus to identify the Son of Man? (9:36)

5. *Who did Jesus claim to be? (9:37)

6. *What did the blind man do when Jesus told him who He was? (9:38)

Push on Wednesday; keep the rhythm of personal study moving.

7. According to Jesus, why had He come into the world? (9:39)

8. What people expressed shock at what Jesus said? (9:40)

9. What did the Pharisees ask Jesus? (9:40)

10. What did Jesus mean by saying “but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains”? (9:41)

11. Why did Jesus say that the Pharisees’ guilt would remain? (9:41)

12. When have you felt unaccepted by other believers?

13. *In what circumstances do you usually worship Jesus?



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

14. *In what way are people today spiritually blind?

15. How has Jesus healed you of your spiritual blindness?

16. How has Jesus' healing of your spiritual blindness changed your life?

17. How would you explain to a man born blind what seeing is and that he is missing something precious that is worth pursuing?

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

18. For what do you need to worship Jesus and God today?

19. *For what person who is spiritually blind will you pray that God would open his or her eyes?

20. How would you describe to someone who is spiritually blind the incredible significance of perceiving the Spiritual realm?

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

Download your study guide at:

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