

John 9:13-25 // The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

¹³ They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. ¹⁴ Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. ¹⁵ Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see."

¹⁶ Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath."

But others asked, "How can a sinner perform such signs?" So they were divided.

¹⁷ Then they turned again to the blind man, "What have you to say about him? It was your eyes he opened."

The man replied, "He is a prophet."

¹⁸ They still did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they sent for the man's parents. ¹⁹ "Is this your son?" they asked. "Is this the one you say was born blind? How is it that now he can see?"

²⁰ "We know he is our son," the parents answered, "and we know he was born blind. ²¹ But how he can see now, or who opened his eyes, we don't know. Ask him. He is of age; he will speak for himself." ²² His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jewish leaders, who already had decided that anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. ²³ That was why his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

²⁴ A second time they summoned the man who had been blind. "Give glory to God by telling the truth," they said. "We know this man is a sinner."

²⁵ He replied, "Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"

Sermon Notes for Reflection and Discussion

John 9:13-25 - March 30, 2025

1 - Introduction

Jamie Brown introduces his message by saying our story is the same story as the blind man. We, too, were spiritually blind from birth. What does he mean by this? How are we like the blind man?

2 - Confidence in Jesus

The Heidelberg Catechism plainly, simply states in whom and what we can place our confidence.

What is your only comfort in life and death?

That I am not my own, but belong with body and soul, both in life and in death, to my faithful Saviour Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from all the power of the devil. He also preserves me in such a way that without the will of my heavenly Father not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, all things must work together for my salvation. Therefore, by his Holy Spirit he also assures me of eternal life and makes me heartily willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Pause to reflect on this statement. What is your reaction to it? Do you find it helpful? Encouraging? Is it a statement of which you want to remind yourself?

3 - At the Center of the Scandal

The man is at the center of the scandal. What is the scandal? What is one of the reasons the Pharisees are so angry with Jesus? See John 9:16.

How does the man respond to being at the center of the scandal? What do you observe? Does he appear panicked? Shaken? In whom or what has he placed his confidence?

4 - “What do you say about him [Jesus] since he has opened your eyes?” (John 9:17).

This is an important question! How does this man refer to Jesus the first time he is asked about him? See John 9:11. How does this man refer to Jesus the second time he is asked about him? See John 9:17.

How would you answer this question? If someone were to ask, “What do you say about Jesus?” or “Why do you believe in Jesus?” What would you say? How did he “open your eyes?”

Is it important you and I are prepared to answer this question? See 1 Peter 3:15. Again, how are we to respond to the work of God in our lives?

5 - Faith Shaken and Strengthened

See John 9:18-23. Pause to imagine what this man’s parents, questioned by the Jewish religious leaders, must think and feel. How do they feel about their son being healed? What do they think about being questioned? Is it possible they are glad, confused, intimidated, and shaken?

Can you think of a time when your faith felt shaken? Do you remember who or what caused

Sermon Notes for Reflection and Discussion
John 9:13-25 - March 30, 2025

you to feel that way?

Jamie Brown suggested there is a purpose to being shaken. It is so you can say, "Give me Jesus." It is so your faith can be strengthened. What do you think of this? Have you ever found this to be true? Would you be willing to share this with the group?

6 - Humility

How does this man respond to the work of Jesus in his life? How does he respond to being the center of the scandal?

Jamie suggests this man responded with confidence, simplicity, and humility. What do you think? How should we respond to the work of God in our lives?

Therefore it says, "God opposes the proud but gives grace to the humble" (James 4:6). What does the Word of God say about humility? See Psalm 25:9, Matthew 18:4, and Philippians 2:8.

Why is it important that we, Jesus' disciples, conduct ourselves with humility and grace?