

RESCUE STORY

Part 1 - Believing is Seeing

John 9:1-7

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John 9 is the *Rescue Story* of a congenitally blind man coming to a saving faith in Christ.

A Calamity Questioned (vs. 1-3)

A Commitment Clarified (vs. 4-5)

The Calamity Corrected (vs. 6-7)

Conclusions

Life Group Discussion Questions – March 15, 2020

John 9:2-3 *“And His disciples asked Him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he would be born blind?” Jesus answered, “It was neither that this man sinned, nor his parents; but it was so that the works of God might be displayed in him.”*

QUICK REVIEW

1. Why is forgiveness such an essential element in our walk with Christ? What makes giving up our right to get even such a crucial step in forgiveness? What might this look like in your life?
2. Forgiveness is an intentional choice we make rather than a feeling. How does prayer play a part in this? Why might we ask God for His strength to extend forgiveness when it seems difficult or painful?

MY STORY

1. An unbelieving associate at work is in a season of hardship and believes God is punishing him. How should you respond to him? How would you respond to a believer who feels the same way as your work colleague?
2. Why do you think we tend to think more about the circumstances that led to a person’s demoralization than actually helping them? How can we learn to be merciful and proactive when dealing with the down-trodden?
3. Do you have a story of deliverance? Were you faithful to give the glory to God? Why or why not?

GOING DEEP (read John 9:1-7)

1. Why were the disciples presumptive in their thinking that sin was the cause for the man’s blindness? (v .2)
2. In v. 3, Jesus reveals that the man was born blind so that the “works of God might be displayed in him.” Are people kept in bondage (e.g. addictive behavior) or physically afflicted for a period of time exclusively for the glory of God when they are delivered? Is that fair?
3. Why did Jesus tell the blind man to go wash in the Pool of Siloam? Wasn’t Jesus’ spittle enough to heal the man? Why does the record mention that the Siloam means “Sent?” (vv. 6,7)
4. It’s simply a matter of time before you encounter someone who is down-and-out (physically, emotionally or even spiritually). Discuss with your group how you can anticipate the encounter as an opening for God’s almighty love and an occasion to display the grace and goodness of the Lord.

PUTTING IT TOGETHER:

1. What do you think are some of the challenges to living out each point?
2. Which of the above teaching points are most important for you to remember?