

BIBLE STORY

John 9:1-41

New International Version (NIV)

Jesus Heals a Man Born Blind

As Jesus went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Teacher, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?”

“Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that God’s power could be shown in him. As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. While I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud, and put it on the man’s eyes. “Go,” Jesus told him, “wash in the Pool of Siloam” (this word means “Sent”). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing-- he had been miraculously healed!

His neighbors and those who had seen him begging before asked, “Isn’t that the same blind man who used to sit and beg?” Some people really believed that he was. Others said, “No, he only looks like him.” But the blind man himself insisted, “I am the same man.”

“How can you see, then?” they asked.

He replied, “The man they call Jesus made some mud and put it on my eyes. He told me to go to Siloam and wash. So I went and washed, and then I could see.”

“Where is this man?” they asked him “I don’t know,” he said.

The Pharisees Investigate the Healing

So people brought the man to the Pharisees. The man told them of how Jesus healed him. The Pharisees asked the blind man, “What have you to say about him? He healed you.”

The man replied, “He is a prophet.”

The Pharisees did not believe all that the man said had happened. They questioned the blind man and his family, and did not believe what Jesus had done. So they got mad and threw the man out.

Spiritual Blindness

Jesus heard that the Pharisees had thrown him out, and when Jesus found the man he had healed, he said, “Do you believe in the Son of Man?”

“Who is he, sir?” the man asked. “Tell me so that I may believe in him.”

Jesus said, “You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you.”

Then the man said, “Lord, I believe,” and he worshiped him.

Jesus said, “I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.” Some Pharisees who were with him heard him say this and asked, “What? Are we blind too?”

Jesus said, “If you were blind, you would not be guilty of sin; but now that you claim you can see, your guilt remains.

PARENT RESOURCES

Family Application

- Story Review
 - What miracle did Jesus perform in this story? (*Healing the Blind Man*)
 - How did Jesus perform that miracle? (*He made mud, put it on the man's eyes, and had him wash.*)
 - Did everyone believe that the man had been healed? Why not? (*No, the Pharisees did not believe, they were angry and did not believe in who Jesus was.*)
 - Did the Pharisees believe in Jesus?(*No, they questioned the man about his healing and got mad.*)
- Verse
 - "Then Jesus said, 'Did I not tell you that if you believe, you will see the glory of God?'" John 11:40
- Meal Time Questions
 - What did Jesus do when he saw the blind man?
 - What happened to the blind man?
 - Did everyone believe that Jesus healed the blind man? Why not?
 - Does our memory verse tell you anything about believing in, and seeing God?
 - How can you trust God in sickness?
 - Who can you pray for this week that you know is sick?

Prayer

- Family Prayer
 - "Dear God, thank you that You are our Healer, and that you can rewrite sickness. Thank you for your promises to be with us, to protect us, and to love us always. May we turn to you in our fear, and our sickness, trusting that you will make a way for our healing and comfort."
- Community/ Neighbour Prayer
 - "Bless our friends, family, and neighbors this week with health. May Your hand of healing be upon those people we know who are sick-- we ask, in the name of Jesus that you would bring healing to them, and rewrite their sickness into perfect health."

Activities

- **Blindfolded Taste Test!**

- Blindfolds
- Plates (for food)
- Napkins
- Cups of water
- Food items that are of different texture and salty/sweet/sour: Examples could be Saltine crackers, banana slices, chocolate bar piece, lemon, pickle

Before Jesus healed the blind man, the man had to use his senses of touch, taste, smell, hear and feel to determine his surroundings. This blindfolded food-tasting game encourages your child(ren) to use some senses other than sight to guess what foods they're eating.

Set the plates of food out, covered with a napkin so the child(ren) can't see what they'll be eating. You may want a cup of water close by to help wash out your child's mouth after each taste test.

SAY: The man in today's part of The Big God Story was blind. Do you know how God's power was shown in this man's life? (response) **God's power was shown when Jesus healed the blind man. What do you think it's like to be blind?** Give your child(ren) a moment to ponder.

Now for the taste testing! If playing this with multiple children, ask everyone to keep what they think it is to themselves so everyone playing can have a turn. When everyone has had a turn eating, ask the children to guess what they just ate. Let them take off the blindfold and have a sip of water. They can put their blindfolds back on, and continue to play until there is no more food to taste. Afterwards, talk with them about how they knew what they were eating.

Did you use your nose to smell or your fingers to touch? What was it like to not be able to see what you were eating?

- **Play-doh Fun:**

When the people asked Jesus why the blind man had been born blind, Jesus responded that it was so God's power could be seen. In this activity, your child(ren) can use play-doh to respond to God's miracle of making the blind man see!

SAY: Whose power was shown when the blind man could see? (responses) **Yes! All the people saw God's power.**

Give your child(ren) a small amount of play-doh and googly eyes (or Mr. Potato head eyes for smaller children) Ask them to hide the eyes in the play-doh and then search for them.

- **Colouring Pages** [ONE](#) || [TWO](#)

- OPTION: Colouring Blindfolded Challenge.
 - Ask your children to colour one page with a blindfold on. Have them colour another without it. Discuss which was easier, and why sight is so important.

- **Activity Pages** [ONE](#) || [TWO](#)

Additional Resources

- [YouTube Bible Story Cartoon](#)