Church: We Can Work It Out! John 9:1-5









John 9:1-5

"Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from his birth. And the disciples asked Him, saying, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he should be born blind?"

Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned, but that the works of God should be revealed in him..." "I must work the works of Him who sent Me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.

As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

Observations

had what he had

- The scripture says that as Jesus was passing by, He saw a man who John says had been blind from the time he was born
- The disciples saw the same man at the same time
- Jesus saw the man, saw his need, and saw an opportunity to meet a need
 His disciples saw the same man and saw an opportunity to settle a

"theological debate" on why this man

Church Listen To Me:

Some People Are More Likely To Respond To Your Tracts (Literature) Once You Honestly Address Their Issues!

Observations

- The disciples' question to Jesus: What caused this man to have blindness?
 - Was it something that he did?
 - Was it something his parents did?
- Some Jews believed that sins of the parents could be physically carried down to the child
- Some Jews actually believed that the child could sin in the womb of the mother, causing the infirmity (They point to Esau and Jacob as twins in the womb of their mother, fighting Genesis 25)

How Does Jesus Answer Their Question?

He says that this man's blindness was not caused by something that he or his parents did:

"but that the works of God should be revealed in him. I must work the works of Him who sent me while it is day; the night is coming when no one can work.

As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

But Jesus Continues His Thoughts And Then He Acts From Those Thoughts!

"When He had said these things, He spat on the ground and made clay with saliva; He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay. And said to him, "Go wash in the pool of Siloam" (which is translated, Sent). So he went and washed, and came back seeing."

Trying to Figure Out Why, Wouldn't Solve His Problem!

His Lesson is for His Disciples and Us!

Jesus said: As long as He was in the world, He was the light of the world-But He wouldn't be on earth forever

AS LONG AS WE ARE IN THE WORLD WE ARE TO BE THE LIGHTS OF THE WORLD!

"You are the light of the world. A city that is set on a hill cannot be hidden. Nor do they light a lamp and put it under a basket, but on a lampstand, and it gives light to all that are in the house. Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven."

Matthew 5:14-16

Jesus Addressed Two Kinds Of Blindness!

- The physical blindness of the blind man
- The spiritual blindness of His disciples We Have The Same Mission Of Jesus!
- Address the physical and spiritual needs of our community for Christ and His Church
- Address the needs of the Church for Christ, "Christ in you, the hope of glory."

Colossians 1:28

The Whole Church Is Needed For God's Mission Here! Find Your Niche!

Personal Evangelism Ministry-Saving Souls (Teaching, Restoration, New Members, Hospitality)

Community Action Ministry-Integrates with the community to provide social and spiritual assistance

College Ministry-Encourages spiritual commitment among our college students

Education Ministry-Provides the study of God's word to prepare us to live the teachings of Christ in our communities

Find Your Niche!

- Singles Ministry- Encourages our single Christians to live a life that is meaningful and God-filled
- Sisters Keeping Sisters-Focuses on the fellowship of sisters in Christ to grow in grace and meaningful relationships
- Wings Of a Dove-provides grief support and encouragement when we lose loved ones
- Youth Ministry-Facilitates the development of our young through their high school graduation, emphasizing spiritual growth and maturity

Find Your Niche!

- Marriage Ministry-Endeavors to strengthen married couples through Biblical principles and group togetherness
- Deaf Ministry- Providing the deaf members of our congregation equal access to Bible study, worship and fellowship
- Zone Ministry-Allows geographic access to encourage connectivity with the local Body of Christ
- Health Ministry- Promotes good health by integrating the teachings of Christ and sound medical knowledge, for the body, mind, and soul

Other Niches for Growth and Development

■ Maintenance Team

Security Team

Kitchen Committees

Philippians 2:12-13

"....<u>work out</u> your salvation with fear and trembling (reverence and respect), for it is <u>God who</u> works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure."

So the Question For Today's Sermon Is:

For God's Sake, What On Earth Are You Doing?

Are You Lighting It Up Where You Are Or Are You Just A "Pass-By" Disciple?

Church:

We Can Work It Out!

(But Christ Needs Everybody Working!)

The Plan Of Salvation

Hear the Gospel Acts 15:7

Believe the Gospel Acts 15:7

Repent Of Sins Acts 17:30

Confess Christ Acts 8:37

Be Baptized Acts 8:38