



# SERMON CHEAT SHEET

Eyes to See | John 9:1-41

## SPIRITUAL SIGHT OVER SPIRITUAL BLINDNESS

### The Purpose of Suffering: A Deeper Look

Jesus uses the story of the man born blind to highlight that not all suffering stems from personal sin. The disciples ask a misguided question: who sinned, this man or his parents? Jesus clarifies that the blind man's condition provides an opportunity for God's work to be displayed in him (John 9:3). In our own trials, we can reflect—what if our hardships serve a greater purpose? They could reveal God's glory or lead us to deeper trust and understanding.

### Jesus, The Light of the World

In John 9:5, Jesus proclaims himself as the light of the world, and this theme echoes throughout his ministry. He demonstrates his power to bring sight to the blind, both physically and spiritually. When we encounter darkness in our own lives, let's remember that Jesus is actively working to illuminate our paths. Our response should be to seek his light in our decisions and trust him to guide us through confusion.

### Recognizing True Transformation

The formerly blind man's joyous return—able to see for the first time—serves as a powerful example of transformation (John 9:7). His neighbors initially can't believe the change! This transformation isn't just physical; it's a life-altering encounter with Jesus. When we experience true change in our lives and others witness our transformation, it's vital we give credit to Jesus for that. We're changed not just for ourselves, but to point others toward him.

### The Danger of Poor Theology

The Pharisees' misunderstanding of Jesus' ministry showcases the risks associated with poor theology. Instead of celebrating the miracle, they focus on rules and regulations, demonstrating a spiritual blindness (John 9:16). This highlights the need for us to examine our own beliefs and attitudes towards Jesus. Are we missing the work God is doing around us because we're stuck in our preconceived notions of religion?

### Boldness in Faith: Standing for Truth

After being questioned relentlessly, the healed man stands firm in his testimony about Jesus, even at the risk of being ostracized (John 9:24-34). His confidence arises not from an understanding of theology but from the truth of his experience: "I was blind, but now I see" (John 9:25). This encourages us to share our stories boldly, knowing that our encounters with Jesus are powerful testimonies against skepticism.

#### LIVE IT OUT THIS WEEK

#### PRAYER PROMPTS

- Reflect on areas in your life where you might be experiencing spiritual blindness—what truths is Jesus trying to reveal to you?
- Engage with a letter to a friend or family member that communicates the hope and light found in Jesus; offer to pray with them about their struggles.
- Reflect on a suffering or difficult circumstance in your life and ask God to reveal how He might be using it to display His glory.
- Pray for spiritual clarity, asking God to open your eyes to where He is working in your life and the lives of those around you.
- Lift up those in your life who are spiritually blind; ask the Holy Spirit to reveal Jesus to them in a powerful way.
- Pray that you would celebrate the work Jesus is doing, both in your life and the lives of others, without getting caught up in religious rules.