



Pastor PJ Berner • May 5, 2024

# THE SHEPHERD

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John 9 | The Purpose of Sight

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## Discussion Questions

*Community Groups meet throughout the week and play a crucial role in our response to the preaching of the word. These groups gather to discuss the following questions as we seek to apply the sermon in community with one another. Please visit [compassntx.org](http://compassntx.org) to join a small group near you.*

1. Considering the cessationist view that miraculous gifts were specific to the apostolic era, how should we interpret Jesus' healing of the blind man in **John 9:6-7** today? What was the purpose of such miracles during Jesus' time, and what is their relevance for us now?
2. **John 9:3** suggests that the man's blindness was used by God for a greater purpose. How does our understanding of suffering change when we view our challenges as opportunities for God's work to be displayed in us? Can you share a personal experience where you saw a difficult situation used for God's glory?
3. Read **Matthew 25:14-30**. How does the concept of stewardship, discussed in the sermon, connect this parable to our passage in John 9? How can we be more faithful in the freedoms we have to make sure we aren't like the wicked servant in this parable? Did it matter that he didn't have as much to steward as the other two? Does it matter that you might not have as much to steward (as many gifts) as someone else?
4. The man in John 9 gradually comes to a fuller understanding of who Jesus is—from thinking of Him as a mere healer to recognizing Him as "Lord" and worshiping Him (**John 9:38**). How do we, as modern believers, grow in our understanding of Christ? What processes or practices will you engage in to deepen your theological insights and relationship with Jesus?

## Recommended Resources

*Below are some resources to assist you in a deeper study of the truths presented in today's sermon.*

### Biographies:

- *Christian Heroes Then & Now*: Janet and Geoff Benge
- *Through the Gates of Splendor*: Elisabeth Elliot
- *The Spiritual Secret of Hudson Taylor*: Howard Taylor
- *George Whitfield: God's Anointed Servant in the Great Revival of the 18th Century*: Arnold Dallimore
- *A Long Line of Godly Men*: Steven J. Lawson
- *Foxe's Book of Martyrs*

Voice of the Martyrs: [www.persecution.com](http://www.persecution.com)

### Books on Jesus:

- *Uneclipsing the Son*: Rick Holland
- *The Whole Christ: Legalism, Antinomianism, and Gospel Assurance*: Sinclair B. Ferguson
- *Captivated by Christ: Seeing Jesus Clearly in the Book of Colossians*: Richard Chin
- *The Man Christ Jesus: Theological Reflections on the Humanity of Christ*: Bruce A. Ware
- *The Gospel According to Jesus*: John MacArthur
- *The Cross of Christ*: John Stott
- *Christ Alone: The Uniqueness of Jesus as Savior*: Stephen Wellum
- *The Jesus of the Gospels*: Andreas Kostenberger