

# Sermon Growth Guide

#### April 6, 2025

"Eyes Opened"

#### John 9:24-38

Key Verse: John 9:25

"Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!"

**Big Idea:** When you belong to Christ, your eyes are opened. You can now see.

#### Foundations

This week, we continue with our theme of Turn Again. In this passage, Jesus heals a man born blind by forming mud from saliva and dirt and placing it on the man's eyes. The man then miraculously sees. This unusual form of healing occurred on the Sabbath.

It had already been declared that "anyone who acknowledged that Jesus was the Christ would be put out of the synagogue" (verse 22). The Pharisees were frustrated by this point, but they couldn't argue with what had happened, though they tried.

Jesus finds the man after he's been thrown out and is assumed to be steeped in sin. Now able to see, he has witnessed a miracle and wants to believe. He sees and knows the truth of Jesus.

This passage contrasts the faith and earnestness of the blind man with the Pharisees, who were looking for excuses and justifications for their hatred of Jesus.

This comparison is even more apparent because the chapter begins and ends with assumptions that the blind man was sinful, which Jesus corrects. The Pharisees were in constant pursuit of being sinless and blameless. The fact that the blind man believes and the Pharisees do not shows the condition of the Pharisees' hearts.

### **Understanding God's Word**

Together, read John 9:24-38. The Pharisees act frustrated about this healing and are trying to get to the bottom of this. How do you see the Pharisees acting out their frustration? What are the differences in tone and belief between the healed blind man and the Pharisees?

## Applying God's Word

The man born blind did not waver from remembering what Jesus had done for him. He consistently gave voice to his incredible healing. He spoke the truth of what had happened in his life and backed it up with Spiritual truth (vss 31-33). How can we pay attention to what Jesus has done in our lives and give voice to it? This man was thrown out for speaking truth (but later met Jesus again). What might it cost us to give voice to what Christ has done for us?

#### Witnessing God's Word

Pastor Tim talked about illumination – that when you belong to Christ, your eyes are opened. What do you see more clearly now? How can you speak up about this?