

Lesson 23: The Healing of the Man Born Blind

Objective: To learn that we will become stronger Christians every time we do not give in to the "pressure" of the crowd.

Background: The Feast of Dedication, (Hanukkah, the Jewish Feast of Lights in December, (John 10:22) celebrates the cleansing and re-dedication of the temple in Jerusalem after it was desecrated (dishonored) by the Gentiles (non-Jews). The teaching of "The Good Shepherd" (John 10), given sometime around the Feast, is the last of the seven public teachings of Jesus found in John's Gospel.

Instructions Read John chapter 9 as if you were an "eye witness" which means you saw what happened with your own eyes.

Let's Think:

One day in Jerusalem, Jesus healed a man who was blind from birth. It was a very unusual miracle, that many people found it hard to believe that the man was really born blind. So, they brought the man to the Pharisees, the religious leaders, for cross-examination to see whether or not it was true.

1. a) Did the Pharisees, at first, believe that the man had been blind from birth? (John 9:18)

b) When did they come to believe that Jesus really healed the man? (John 9:18-23)

2. a) Why did the leaders insist that Jesus was a sinner? Give their reason (John 9:16,24)

b) The leaders also tried to make the man believe that Jesus was a sinner. Did the man give in to the "pressure" and go along with the leaders in their thinking about Jesus? If not, why? (John 9:24,25) Compare this with what his parents said. (John 9:20-23)

3. a) What made the leaders so angry that they threw the man out? (John 9:26-34, 15)

b) How did the man stand up for Jesus? Does his reasoning make sense? (John 9:30-33)

4. a) Was it an accident that the man met Jesus the second time? (John 9:35) By the way, will Jesus leave us alone when we stand up to witness for Him? (Matthew 28:20b)

b) What did the man do when his “spiritual eyes” were opened to see that Jesus was “The Son of Man” (the Messiah)? (John 9:35-37, also Luke 24:31, 44-45) By the way, how many miracles had Jesus done for the man? Explain.

5. a) How did the questioning by the Jewish leaders help the man to think and to understand Jesus better at the end? Explain (read carefully John 9: 11, 17, 27-28, 33)

b) What made the man stand firm, never giving in to the pressure of the leaders?

6. a) If the former blind man were to visit your school, would he see you standing firm on God’ Word and never giving in to the “pressure” of the crowd? THINK!

Let’s Remember: The man answered, “Whether He is a sinner, I do not know, one thing I know, that though I was blind, now I see.” (John 9:25)

