

A Play Concerning "A Man Born Blind Receives Sight," John 9

(This is like a Greek Tragedy where there are *choruses* responding as written, to allow all teens to participate.)

Narrator: "Jesus is walking about and teaching in the massive Jewish Temple, with disciples following. A crowd comprised of Neighbors and Bystanders mull about."

Narrator: "Now as Jesus passed by, He saw a man who was blind from birth." (The blind man stands with a container, for coins) "And His disciples asked Him, saying,"

All Disciples: "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

Jesus: "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."

Narrator: (Jesus does this as described): "Jesus spat on the ground and made clay with the saliva; and He anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay."

Jesus: "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (Jesus departs until the end of this play.)

(Led by a neighbor, they go to a designated place in the room; the blind man washes his eyes, sees, and then walks to the group of Neighbors.)

Neighbors: "Is not this he who sat and begged?"

Some neighbors say, "This is he."

Others said, "He is like him."

Blind Man: "I am he."

Neighbors: "How were your eyes opened?"

Blind Man: "A Man called Jesus made clay and anointed my eyes and said to me, 'Go to the pool of Siloam and wash.' So I went and washed, and I received sight."

Neighbors: "Where is He?"

Blind Man: "I do not know."

Narrator: "The neighbors bring him who formerly was blind to the Pharisees." (Four Pharisees sit at a table facing the neighbors and the Blind man.)

Narrator: "Now it was a Sabbath when Jesus made the clay and opened his eyes."

Pharisees: "How did you receive your sight?"

Blind Man: "He put clay on my eyes, and I washed, and I see."

Two Pharisees (looking at each other): "This Man is not from God, because He does not keep the Sabbath."

Two other Pharisees: "How can a man who is a sinner do such signs?"

Narrator: "And there was a division among them."

Pharisees: "What do you say about Him because He opened your eyes?"

Blind Man, "He is a prophet."

Narrator: "But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind and received his sight, until they called the parents of him who had received his sight."

(Blind Man leaves.)

(The parents approach and stand before the Pharisees.)

Pharisees: "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?"

Parents: "We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind; but by what means he now sees we do not know, or who opened his eyes we do not know. He is of age; ask him. He will speak for himself."

Narrator: "His parents said these things because they feared the Jews, for the Jews had agreed already that if anyone confessed that He was Christ, he would be put out of the synagogue."

Parents: "He is of age; ask him."

Narrator: "So the Pharisees again called the man who was blind,"

(Blind Man approaches and stands before them).

Pharisees: "Give God the glory! We know that this Man is a sinner."

Blind Man: "Whether He is a sinner or not I do not know. One thing I know: that though I was blind, now I see."

Pharisees: "What did He do to you? How did He open your eyes?"

Blind Man: "I told you already, and you did not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become His disciples?"

Narrator: "Then they reviled him and said,"

Pharisees: "You are His disciple, but we are Moses' disciples. We know that God spoke to Moses; as for this fellow, we do not know where He is from."

Blind Man: “Why, this is a marvelous thing, that you do not know where He is from; yet He has opened my eyes! Now we know that God does not hear sinners; but if anyone is a worshiper of God and does His will, He hears him. Since the world began it has been unheard of that anyone opened the eyes of one who was born blind. If this Man were not from God, He could do nothing.”

Pharisees: “You were completely born in sins, and are you teaching us?”

Narrator: “And they cast him out.”

(Blind Man leaves and walks to the crowd of neighbors and bystanders.)

(Jesus approaches and stands before the Blind Man.)

Narrator: “Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when He had found him, He said to him,”

Jesus: “Do you believe in the Son of God?”

Blind Man: “Who is He, Lord that I may believe in Him?”

Narrator: “Remember that the blind man only heard Jesus’ voice, never saw Him before he washed his eyes—so he could not recognize Jesus.”

Jesus: “You have both seen Him and it is He who is talking with you.”

Blind Man: “Lord, I believe!” (And he got on his knees and raised his arms, looking up at Jesus. Jesus touched his forehead, takes his hand, pulling Him up, and embraces him. The Blind Man steps aside.)

(Jesus looks at His disciples, neighbors, and bystanders. He raised his hands.)

Jesus: “For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind.”

(Two of the Pharisees approach and face Jesus as he lowers his arms.)

Pharisees: “Are we blind also?”

Jesus: “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, ‘We see.’ Therefore your sin remains.”

(See below)

Discussion:

1. At the beginning, what did—and does—Jesus mean when He said “... the night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world?” How is Jesus the light of your world? What does he mean by “night” in this world?
2. What does Jesus mean when He said “For judgment I have come into this world, that those who do not see may see, and that those who see may be made blind?” Who is “blind” and who “sees?”
3. Lastly, when Jesus passes a verdict on these Pharisees who heard conclusive evidence that Jesus healed a blind man from credible witnesses, what did he mean when He said “If you were blind, you would have no sin; but now you say, ‘We see.’ Therefore your sin remains?” Today, in your world—school acquaintances, associates, friends, hanging out friends—who is blind and who sees? Does this disturb you?
4. Lastly, what do you conclude about Jesus and the cost of believing and following Him? Does this pertain to John 1:4-5: “In Him was life, and that life was the light of humanity. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never mastered (comprehended, overcome, or grasped) it”?