SMITH FOR CHRIST

TEACHING THE WORD · WATCHING THE TIMES

REFLECTION JOURNAL · FIVE DAYS

John

Chapter 9

Once Blind, Now I See

MEMORY VERSE · JOHN 9:25

"He then answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.""

THIS JOURNAL BELONGS TO _____

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

This week in John 9

John 9 is the story of a man nobody really saw until Jesus did. This week, let Jesus see you as you are, obey Him a step before you can see where it leads, and get ready to say your “one thing” out loud. The same Jesus who opened that man’s eyes still finds the ones the world has put out.

How to use this journal

1. Each day, read the passage slowly — out loud if you can.
2. Answer the **Observe** question from the text before you write what it means.
3. Write honestly on the **Reflect** questions. No one grades this.
4. Do the **Respond** step today, not someday. Say the memory verse.
5. Bring this journal to the group. The last page is for the table.

The full Deep Dive, the O·I·A study and the slides for this chapter are on the John study page.

WHERE I AM AS I START THIS CHAPTER

What is going on in my life right now that I want to bring to God this week?

DAY 1 OF 5

The Light Opens Blind Eyes

READ · JOHN 9:1–7

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What question did the disciples ask in verse 2, and how did Jesus answer it in verse 3? List the four things Jesus did or said in verses 6–7, and what the man did in response.

REFLECT

The disciples asked "who sinned?" (v. 2). What hard thing in your life have you tried to pin on someone, and what changes if it can be where "the works of God might be displayed" (v. 3)?

REFLECT

The man walked to Siloam with clay on his eyes, still blind (v. 7). What step of obedience is Jesus asking you to take before you can see how it will turn out?

RESPOND — TODAY

Name one plain thing Jesus has already told you to do, and do it today without waiting to see the result.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 9:25)

DAY 2 OF 5

I Am the One

READ · JOHN 9:8–17

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

How did the neighbors react in verses 8–9? Write down, word for word, how the man described what happened in verse 11 and again in verse 15. What did he call Jesus in verse 17?

REFLECT

The neighbors knew him only as "the one who used to sit and beg" (v. 8). What old label do people still put on you — and what would it mean to say, like him, "I am the one" whom Jesus changed (v. 9)?

REFLECT

The same miracle split the Pharisees in two (v. 16). Where have you seen people look at the same work of God and reach opposite conclusions, and what does that tell you about the heart?

RESPOND — TODAY

Write your own version of verse 11 in three short sentences: what you were, what Jesus did, what you are now. Keep it in your pocket this week.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 9:25)

DAY 3 OF 5

Afraid of Being Put Out

READ · JOHN 9:18–23

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did the parents say they knew, and what did they say they did not know (vv. 20–21)? According to verse 22, why did they answer that way?

REFLECT

The parents "were afraid of the Jews" and kept quiet so they would not be "put out of the synagogue" (v. 22). Whose opinion, or what loss, has kept you quiet about Jesus — at work, on the yard, at home?

REFLECT

They handed the hard question to their son: "He is of age; ask him" (v. 23). Where are you letting someone else carry a stand for Christ that God is asking you to take yourself?

RESPOND — TODAY

Confess one place where fear of people has silenced you. Ask God for courage, and look for one chance today to say a plain word about Jesus.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 9:25)

DAY 4 OF 5

One Thing I Do Know

READ · JOHN 9:24–34

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

Count how many times the word “know” appears in verses 24–31, and note who is saying it each time. What was the man’s argument in verses 30–33, and what did the Pharisees do in verse 34?

REFLECT

The man admitted, “Whether He is a sinner, I do not know,” and held to “one thing I do know” (v. 25). What is your “one thing” — what do you know for certain that Jesus has done for you?

REFLECT

They reviled him and threw him out (vv. 28, 34). When has following Jesus cost you a friendship, a group or your reputation, and how did you handle it?

RESPOND — TODAY

Tell one person your “one thing” this week in two sentences — and then tell him who Jesus is and what He did on the cross, because the gospel is about Him, not just about you.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 9:25)

DAY 5 OF 5

Found, Seeing, Worshiping

READ · JOHN 9:35–41

OBSERVE — WHAT DOES IT SAY?

What did Jesus hear, and what did He do about it (v. 35)? Trace the man's answers in verses 36–38. What did Jesus say to the Pharisees in verses 39–41?

REFLECT

"Jesus heard that they had put him out, and finding him …" (v. 35). Where have you been put out, and what does it mean to you that Jesus goes looking for people like that?

REFLECT

Jesus told the Pharisees, "since you say, 'We see,' your sin remains" (v. 41). In what area of your life are you most tempted to say "I already see"?

RESPOND — TODAY

Read verse 38 out loud and make it your prayer: "Lord, I believe." Then spend five minutes simply worshiping Jesus — no requests, just thanks for finding you.

☐ READ IT ☐ PRAYED IT ☐ SAID THE MEMORY VERSE (JOHN 9:25)

WHEN THE GROUP MEETS

Questions for the table

FOR THE GROUP · 1

The man's view of Jesus grew in every scene — "the man who is called Jesus" (v. 11), "a prophet" (v. 17), "from God" (v. 33), "Lord" (v. 38). How has your view of Jesus grown since you first met Him, and what moved it forward?

FOR THE GROUP · 2

Jesus said, "We must work the works of Him who sent Me as long as it is day; night is coming" (v. 4). What work of God is in front of you right now that you have been putting off?

FOR THE GROUP · 3

The neighbors, the Pharisees and the parents all talked about the man; only Jesus talked to him (vv. 35–37). Who is someone everyone talks about that this group could go and talk to this week?

MY PRAYER

Lord Jesus, Light of the world, I was blind and You opened my eyes and came looking for me, so today I ask You…

CUT OUT · CARRY IT · JOHN 9:25

"He then answered, "Whether He is a sinner, I do not know; one thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see.""