

MAY 3, 2020 | AARON CLOUD

## John 9:1-38

**Realize:** Difficult experiences can be opportunities to see God's glory & for God to be glorified. (v.3)

- Core challenges of difficult experiences: Timing, Perseverance, & Trust

**Recognize:** that we are called to purposeful action (v. 4)

- Seize the moment we are in & engage with purposeful & prayerful action.

**Jesus Claim:** I Am the Light of the World (v. 5)

**Core Question:** How will we respond to Jesus?

### Case study in responses:

Pharisees: Legalistic resistance (v. 16-17)

The Man's parents: Concerned about acceptance (v. 20-23)

The Blind Man: Proclaims truth (v. 24-33)

### How we respond is crucial - do we believe that Jesus is who He says He is?

- Real encounter: The blind man can't read the Word & yet he knows Jesus - his growing journey of faith.
- Not just right doctrine: The Pharisees know the Word but miss Jesus - can't see who is right in front of them.

**Key Question:** Who do you follow? (9:28)

**The risk of right response:** Rejection (9:34)

### Application & Response

Worship: Shifts & shapes our perspective (v. 38)

Engage: Active engagement in the mission of God moves us from despair to hope.

Testimony: Tell your story well & with boldness. (9:25)

## Discipling with Family & Friends

1. Is there a time when you have seen God work in your life through a difficult situation? What did you learn from that experience?
2. Which aspect of faith do you struggle with in challenging seasons:
  - Trusting God's timing
  - Perseverance
  - Trusting God's purposes
3. How do you find encouragement to stay rooted during difficult seasons?
4. What tangible action could you take to seize the moment we are in for Gospel purposes?
5. What does it look like for you to pause & discern purposeful & prayerful action during challenges?
6. The blind man responds in John 9:38 by acknowledging Jesus as Lord, what does acknowledging Jesus as Lord mean for your life & your faith?