DO YOU HAVE

Got Any Blind Spots? John 9:35-41 Part 1

When you drive, you encounter "blind spots" it could be part of your own car or it could be a tree that hides traffic on the other side. Those blind spots hinder both progress and ultimately, safety. When Jesus healed a blind man in Jerusalem,

Got Any Blind Spots? John 9:35-41 Part 1

the same man was also healed of his spiritual blindness. But others who thought their spiritual perception was keen were as blind as a bat! As we consider this story, can you think of any blind spots in your spiritual journey?

Rejection by Earthly Religionists

Blind man cast out of the synagogue

Kicked out of Jewish life altogether; spiritually

and socially

Three levels of being cast out
Stay in your house, isolated for one week
Nidui - Publicly reprimanded, isolated for 7-30
days

Cherem - Indefinite, cast out for life

It is a privilege to be cast out of some places

Martin Luther - believed in the Bible

John Calvin

Accepted by Heavenly Representative

Jesus found him

Kicked out of temple - Lord of the temple goes to find him

Rejected by man's religious-Son of God from heaven finds, accepts him

Rejected on earth, accepted in heaven - Alexander Maclaren

Jesus style

"Whoever comes to me, I will by no means cast out"—John 6:37

"The Son of Man has come to seek and to save that which was lost."-Luke 19:10

Leave the 99 sheep for the sake of one wandering sheep—Matthew 18:12-14

II. the Most Important Priority—That We Believe (vv. 35-37)

Question about Faith

You! Do you believe? -arrest attention; focus and emphasize spiritual need

Jesus targeted those He healed so that He might be glorified and others might believe in Him

Faith is more valuable than health. —Matthew 5:29

II. the Most Important <u>Priority</u>—*That We Believe* (vv. 35-37)

Question about Identity

The man had been waiting his whole life for Messiah

Show me that I may believe

II. the Most Important Priority—That We Believe (vv. 35-37)

Ready to believe

Highest priority is that you believe in Jesus Christ –John 3:16

Believe-not to acknowledge God exists, but to commit to, rely on, adhere to

II. the Most Important <u>Priority</u>—*That We Believe* (vv. 35-37)

C.H. Spurgeon-98 percent of the people he met—including the criminals he visited in England's prisons—told him that they believed the Bible to be true. But the vast majority had never made a personal, life-changing commitment to Jesus Christ. For them, "believe" was not an active verb.

II. the Most Important <u>Priority</u>—*That We Believe* (vv. 35-37)

Do you believe

The blind man now with his sight

He can see now

Show me that I might believe

I believe