

*Daily Devotional Guide to
the Book of John*

John Chapter 9

Days 99 - 108

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A Daily Devotional Study Of The Gospel Of John

You will need a Bible of your own to do this devotional study. Reading the Bible with an open heart and mind brings us into God's presence, and getting to know God is accomplished by spending time with him on a daily basis. This study is designed to develop or maintain the habit of meeting daily with God, sometimes referred to as a devotional time with God. It doesn't have to take a large chunk of time, but it needs to be focused on the Scriptures (the Bible). It doesn't have to cover a lot of material or content every day, it just needs to be understood and applied to our lives.

The study days are numbered so that you can do them any day of the week, preferably one each day. However, if you miss a day, it won't matter because the days are not assigned a date or day of the week.

My approach to the study is a verse by verse exploration and application of God's Word to our lives. This is an *inductive* study, which means that we derive meaning from the Biblical text itself rather than from outside sources. The passages for each day are short, to enable you to focus more in depth on a few verses at a time. I frequently bring additional Scripture into the discussion in an effort to ensure accurate interpretation of the day's topics.

How This Devotional Study Works

1. In your Bible, look up and read the verses for the day.
2. Write the first verse for the day in the top left space under *What it Says* (Row 1, Column 1).
3. Working left to right, read the comments in the *Meanings/Principles* space (Row 1, Column 2).
4. Then, write your answers to the questions to clarify *What it Means to Me* (Row 1, Column 3).
5. Continue by writing the next verse in Row 2, Column 1, reading Row 2 Column 2, and writing answers to questions in Row 2, Column 3.
6. Continue working left to right as you go down the page.

To summarize, first read through the verses in John for the day. Then write exactly what the first verse says in the first column. (*Write each verse word for word, exactly as it appears in the Bible in column one.*) After you write out each verse, read the second column that clarifies the important information given in that verse and then answer the questions in column three related to the verse. (*Work left to right. It is important to answer each question based on the verse and its meaning in column two.*)

You may choose to either 1) print pages and write in the spaces provided or 2) enter your responses on your computer. If you use your computer you can save your work, then come back and print at any time. If your response exceeds the space allowed you can scroll the text area to see the complete text; but if you print, some of the text may be hidden.

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:1</p>	<p>Jesus gave sight to many blind people in order to fulfill Scriptures about the Messiah. (Isaiah 29:18-19; 35:5). Review Isaiah 42:5-9 where God revealed the new thing he would do through his Chosen One, Jesus.</p>	<p>What has Jesus done for me?</p> <p>What does he want to do for me and for others?</p>
<p>John 9:2</p>	<p>According to the <i>NIV Study Bible</i> note, the rabbis at that time would say that this man committed a serious sin while still in the womb, or that his parents committed some great sin.</p>	<p>Am I more interested in attaching blame and judging others, or in bringing God's forgiveness and healing to people?</p>
<p>John 9:3</p>	<p>Those who need help are opportunities for us to bring God's help to them so that they can be delivered and God can be glorified.</p>	<p>Do I think suffering people deserve to suffer?</p> <p>Do I think I deserve to continue to suffer? Am I more interested in carrying my guilt and blaming myself or others for my situation than I am in allowing God to work in my situation?</p>

Day 99

Read John 9:1-5

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
John 9:4 	As followers of Jesus, we are to be busy bringing God's message of love to those in need.	How can I help to bring true healing to those in need today?
John 9:5 	Jesus' presence is like light that illuminates darkness. He is the source of knowledge, wisdom, righteousness, healing, and goodness because he is the source for truth about God.	How can I reflect the light of Jesus into the world today? (Matthew 5:16)

What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:6</p>	<p>Jesus acted on his words: this man's affliction was present to bring glory to God through his healing, so Jesus set about healing him. Jesus could heal him because Jesus is the light of the world.</p>	<p>What is afflicting me right now physically, mentally, emotionally, or spiritually?</p> <p>Can Jesus heal me if I ask? (Do I believe Jesus is <i>able</i> to heal me?)</p> <p>Would it bring glory to God if he healed me? Would I give God the glory?</p>
<p>John 9:7</p>	<p>Jesus could have healed without sending him to wash, but he asked this man to act in faith and obedience in order to bring about his healing from God. Doing what Jesus asked resulted in miraculous healing.</p>	<p>Am I acting in obedience to Jesus' words? (Matthew 7:7-12)</p> <p>Is God <i>obligated</i> to heal me if I ask and I am walking with him? Are there reasons that the affliction(s) I have might be for my good? (II Corinthians 12:7-10)</p>

Day 100 ***Read John 9:6-7***

What would I like to say to Jesus?

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What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:8</p>	<p>Meeting Jesus changes people. Jesus' healing (physical or spiritual) changes our lives and frees us from our old needs.</p>	<p>How has Jesus changed me on the inside from what I used to <i>be</i>?</p> <p>And how has Jesus changed my <i>life</i> as a result of the change in who I <i>am</i>?</p>
<p>John 9:9</p>	<p>Those who have not experienced salvation in Jesus do not understand his power to change us.</p>	<p>Who can I ask God to reveal Jesus to today?</p> <p>Is there any truth I can tell that person to help him or her understand God's power?</p>
<p>John 9:10</p>	<p>People often demand a non-spiritual explanation.</p>	<p>How do I usually explain the changes in me when I am telling someone that I am better after I have asked God for help? Do I give the glory to God?</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:11</p>	<p>Simple obedience reflects the simplest and clearest form of believing in Jesus. Simply telling what God did in our lives can be powerful.</p>	<p>Am I being simply obedient? How does my life reflect obedience to Jesus?</p> <p>Have I simply told anyone what Jesus has done for me lately?</p>
<p>John 9:12</p>	<p>This man did not yet fully believe, not knowing who Jesus was, but he soon would know and commit to belief in him. (John 9:38)</p>	<p>Should I give up on anyone I am praying for who needs Jesus? (Philippians 4:6; Luke 18:1-8; Matthew 5:43-44)</p>

What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:13</p>	<p>Instead of rejoicing at God's goodness and mercy, they took the "problem" to the proper authorities.</p>	<p>Do I overlook God's goodness and mercy, or do I rejoice in his actions in the world? (Hebrews 13:15-16)</p>
<p>John 9:14</p>	<p>They were most concerned with controlling the things which they considered were to be allowed and not allowed on the Sabbath.</p>	<p>Do I think I need to control or restrict God's activities?</p>
<p>John 9:15</p>	<p>Evil is complicated. God is good, and goodness is pure and simple. Sometimes the resolution and healing God brings in our lives seems almost anticlimactic.</p>	<p>Do I remember to thank God and give him glory? (Psalm 107:1)</p>
<p>John 9:16</p>	<p>People actually reject God's goodness and mercy in their lives by rejecting Jesus! People are often divided over who Jesus is: some accept him and some reject him.</p>	<p>Am I rejecting God's goodness and mercy in my own life?</p> <p>How am I spreading the truth about the Gospel being good news? (Psalm 96:1-5)</p>

Day 102 **Read John 9:13-16**

What would I like to say to Jesus?

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What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:17</p>	<p>Jesus' intervention in our lives causes questions about who he is and why and how he is able to work apparent miracles. Those with limited understanding of who Jesus is will sometimes acknowledge that he must be some kind of prophet. Jesus did not withhold help from this needy man. Jesus would soon reveal himself to this man who was born blind and the result would be faith and salvation.</p>	<p>What is Jesus' job in bringing someone to faith in him?</p> <p>What is my job in bringing another person to faith in Jesus?</p>
<p>John 9:18</p>	<p>People are skeptical of Jesus' miraculous work in lives if they refuse his deity.</p>	<p>Do I have close relatives and friends who know what Jesus has done in my life? Has it caused them to acknowledge Jesus' role in that change?</p>
<p>John 9:19</p>	<p>Those who refuse to acknowledge Jesus' deity keep looking for natural causes and explanations.</p>	<p>How can I help others understand who Jesus is?</p>
<p>John 9:20</p>	<p>Facts are facts and can't be denied.</p>	<p>How can I begin to document my answered prayers and the changes Jesus brings in response to my requests?</p>

Day 103

Read John 9:17-21

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
John 9:21 	Sometimes people are afraid of acknowledging who Jesus is and that he has power over us and over life and death.	How can I help others overcome their fear and reluctance to admit there is a God? (Mark 5:36; Hebrews 13:6; Luke 2:8-11)

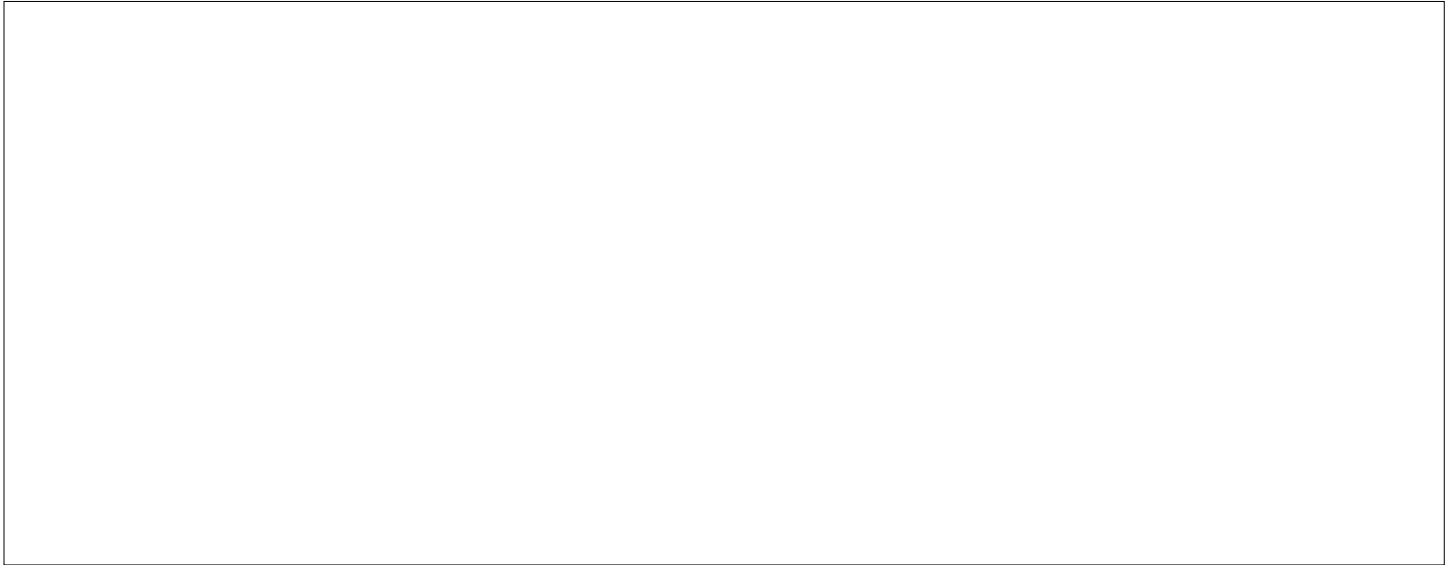
What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:22</p>	<p>The religious leaders didn't want Jesus to be the Christ. They wanted a different kind of Messiah, or maybe they didn't want a Messiah at all.</p>	<p>What are the temptations to choose a different kind of Savior in my life, or to conclude I don't need a Savior?</p>
<p>John 9:23</p>	<p>This man's parents were afraid of what would happen to them if they showed any support for Jesus. Each person must decide for himself or herself about following Christ. Fear of repercussions keeps some people from following Jesus.</p>	<p>Is there any fear that keeps me from following Christ more fully?</p>
<p>John 9:24</p>	<p>Jesus said that he and Father are one (John 10:30), that he had glory with the Father before the world began (John 17:5), and that the work God requires of us is only to believe in Jesus (John 6:29). Those who claim to know God but deny his Son, don't know God.</p>	<p>How does giving glory to Jesus result in giving glory to God?</p>
<p>John 9:25</p>	<p>The reality and results of Jesus' working in our lives cannot be denied.</p>	<p>Today, how can I tell other people what Jesus has done for me?</p>

Day 104

Read John 9:22-25

What would I like to say to Jesus?

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What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:26</p>	<p>Matthew 11:4 informs us that Jesus told John the Baptist's disciples the blind receive sight from Jesus (John 9:1), the lame walk, the lepers are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor. Remember, this is in fulfillment of descriptions of the expected Messiah recorded 700 years earlier that we saw in Isaiah 29:18-22; 35:5-6; and also see 61:1.</p>	<p>Has Jesus healed me physically?</p> <p>Has Jesus opened my spiritual eyes? Has he healed me spiritually?</p>
<p>John 9:27</p>	<p>This man considered himself a disciple or follower of Jesus, but the leaders would not accept the truth of his healing.</p>	<p>What does it mean to be a disciple of someone?</p> <p>Do I consider myself, or want to become, Jesus' disciple?</p>
<p>John 9:28</p>	<p>They did not want to believe that Jesus was greater than Moses. In Isaiah 49:1-7, Jesus tells how God sent him to gather Israel to himself, but that restoring the tribes of Jacob is a small thing for God, so God also chose to make the Messiah a light to the Gentiles, to bring God's salvation to the ends of the earth.</p>	<p>Is it greater to be a disciple of Moses or Jesus? Why? (Hebrews 3:1-6)</p>

Day 105

Read John 9:26-29

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:29</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 709" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 204px;"></div>	<p>They spoke out of unbelief and ignorance. Jesus was born in Bethlehem to fulfill the Old Testament prophecies. (Matthew 1:20-2:6) He was taken to Egypt as a young child, but returned to Israel to fulfill Old Testament prophecy. (Matthew 2:13-15) He was raised in the town of Nazareth to fulfill Old Testament Scripture. (Matthew 2:21-23)</p>	<p>Why is it important for me to know that Jesus fulfilled all of these ancient prophecies God had given about the Messiah?</p> <div data-bbox="789 310 1524 709" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 190px;"></div>

What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:30</p>	<p>This man had experienced extreme healing and deliverance from blindness. When God works in our lives it is life-changing, unforgettable, and can't be denied. We know in our hearts the depth of the grace Jesus extends to us.</p>	<p>How is God working in me right now?</p>
<p>John 9:31</p>	<p>The healing that Jesus provides is undeniably from God.</p>	<p>What does God need to do for me through Jesus, right now?</p>
<p>John 9:32</p>	<p>Jesus provides spiritual and physical healing that no one else can provide.</p>	<p>What is my deepest need right now?</p>
<p>John 9:33</p>	<p>Jesus is the "radiance of God's glory and the exact representation of his being" according to Hebrews 1:3. He can fill deep, real, spiritual needs.</p>	<p>Does God want to meet my deepest need?</p> <p>Is Jesus willing and able to meet my deepest need?</p>

Day 106

Read John 9:30-34

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:34</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 774" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 235px;"></div>	<p>They clung to the belief that this man's affliction had been caused by sin. Jesus said that afflictions are opportunities for God to work in our lives (John 9:3).</p>	<p>What do I consider an affliction in my life today?</p> <div data-bbox="789 281 1524 491" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px;"></div> <p>What would God's healing in that area look like in my life?</p> <div data-bbox="789 529 1524 774" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 117px;"></div>

What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:35</p>	<p>Jesus went right to the point, the man's need for salvation. He needed to completely understand who Jesus is.</p>	<p>In my concern for other people's needs, do I omit their most basic and most important need that outweighs all others?</p> <p>How can I stop avoiding or ignoring the biggest need my friends and family have?</p>
<p>John 9:36</p>	<p>This man trusted what Jesus said because of what Jesus had done in his life.</p>	<p>Do I trust Jesus to take care of me today? Can I be obedient to him?</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:37</p>	<p>Jesus referred to himself as the Son of Man described over 500 years earlier. (Review Daniel 7:13-14.) This Son of Man was described as one who looks like a human being, but is given authority, glory, and sovereign power over all peoples and nations. This Son of Man is given an eternal kingdom that will not end, from God, the Ancient of Days.</p>	<p>What does Jesus' kingdom look like now? (Does it look like Jesus has sovereign power over all peoples and nations?)</p> <p>What will Jesus himself look like when he comes to judge the earth? (Revelation 19:11-16)</p> <p>What will Jesus' kingdom look like when all of Scripture is fulfilled? (Revelation 21:22-27)</p>
<p>John 9:38</p>	<p>Just as all people worship the Son of Man in Daniel 7:14, this man's response was to worship Jesus. He clearly recognized that the Son of Man was the Messiah or Anointed (Chosen) One of God, and that Jesus was this promised One in the flesh.</p>	<p>What is my response to this Son of Man? Do I believe him? Have I worshipped him today?</p>

Day 107 **Read John 9:35-38**

What would I like to say to Jesus?

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:39</p>	<p>Jesus causes people to choose. He seeks those who acknowledge they need God, to offer them a life of following him. Those who think they don't need God are spiritually blind.</p>	<p>Do I need God today?</p> <p>Do I want to walk with Jesus today?</p> <p>How am I seeking to know and do His will today?</p>
<p>John 9:40</p>	<p>If we take pride in our own strength or a religious position, we are blind to our real spiritual needs.</p>	<p>In what way am I blind to my own spiritual needs today?</p> <p>What is Jesus telling me I need right now?</p>

What It Says	Meaning/Principles	What It Means to Me
<p>John 9:41</p> <div data-bbox="100 281 428 835" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 264px;"></div>	<p>If we claim God's name but act in ways that are antithetical to His heart, God can't use us to meet the needs of the people around us and further the kingdom of God.</p>	<p>Am I guilty of claiming God's name, of claiming to know spiritual truths, but my heart is not God's heart?</p> <div data-bbox="789 310 1524 520" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 100px;"></div> <p>What am I doing to meet the needs of the <i>spiritually</i> needy around me? (What did Jesus do?)</p> <div data-bbox="789 590 1524 835" style="border: 1px solid black; height: 117px;"></div>

What would I like to say to Jesus?