John 9:1-12 Study Hints for Discussion

Study Hints for Discussion and Thinking Further are not actually intended to be *the answers* to the discussion questions. These indeed are "hints" a teacher may use to help students think through and discuss the questions in class. The *Class Preparation Guide* includes the questions below, and it can be given to students at the end of the previous class; then, they can pray, read, and think ahead to prepare for the next week's Bible lesson. And/Or, consider giving each student the *Verse-by-Verse Scripture Handout*, which includes the Bible verses to be studied before class and other questions.

1. Who sinned that the man was born blind?

No one.

2. In what special way did Jesus look upon the man who was born blind? How do you look upon people who have a genetic disorder?

He saw the man as a person He and the Father had created in a marvelous way when in the womb (see Psalms 139). He did not see him as a sinner when in the womb. Jesus knew the man would glorify God as He did God's works in him. As someone God can bless and work with and through to reveal His marvelous work. God will sometimes use us to do His work with and in people with all sorts of disorders.

3. How did Jesus explain our responsibility to do the works of God?

We need to do the works of God while it is day; in other words, at every opportunity, because there will come a time when we will no longer have certain opportunities.

4. What did Jesus do to heal the man? Why do you think Jesus healed him this way?

He used His spit and dust from the ground to make mud, which He put on the man's eyes. Then, He told him to go wash in the pool of Siloam. Jesus completed what He had begun when He was involved in the man's creation in the womb to bring glory to God and show the works of God that He might bless the man and his family and lead others to faith in Him by His sign.

5. What did the man do to receive his sight? If he had disobeyed Jesus, do you think he would have been able to see?

He obeyed Jesus' command and went to the pool of Siloam exactly as Jesus told him to do. No, because he would not have fulfilled the conditions that Jesus set for him to receive his sight. Jesus gave him the opportunity and responsibility to believe and do or disbelieve and disobey. He did as Jesus intended.

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