

CCC Mission: To inspire people to become *Fully Alive* followers of Jesus Christ!

"I have come to give you life!" Jesus Christ in John 10:10

Being "Fully Alive" is all about receiving and living the life Jesus promised. A life of...

"Connections" – Growing in my love for God and people – relational vitality!

"Calling" – Living with purpose and participating in God's mission and movement in the world

"Change" – Growing in new ways and becoming the person I was meant to be

Fully Alive! Becoming the person I was meant to be and living the life I was meant to live

Becoming and living more like Jesus



Cascade Covenant Church Message Notes: January 23, 2011

(CCC: North Bend, WA. - 425.831.6222 – cascadecov.com)

"Life Ways and Doorways: A Study of the Gospel of John in the New Testament"

"Living with 20/20 Vision" – John 9:1-41

Introduction:

3 Forms of Blindness:

I. Beware of the blindness of _____.

Jesus said: *"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life"* (John 8:12)

II. Beware of the blindness of _____.

III. Beware of the blindness of _____.

Jesus Reflects on Vision and Blindness (9:35-41)

An Incredible Progression: Jesus was seen as

- A _____. (9:11)
- A _____. (9:17)
- My _____. (9:38)

Questions for Reflection and Discussion from John 9:

1. How would you describe the blindness we see in different people in John 9?

2. Review this statement by New Testament Scholar Gary Burge and the scriptures he refers to, what do we learn from this?

Gary Burge: THE SYNOPTICS PROVIDE numerous examples of Jesus healing blind people. In some respects this sort of miracle was a hallmark of his ministry (Matt. 11:5; Luke 4:17; 7:22). Jesus healed the blind man Bartimaeus in Jericho (Mark 10:46 – 52; Luke 18:35 – 43), two blind men in Galilee (Matt. 9:27 – 31), a blind man without speech elsewhere (possibly in Capernaum; Matt. 12:22 – 23), a blind man in Bethsaida (Mark 8:22 – 26), and one more in Jerusalem following his cleansing of the temple (Matt. 21:14). Jesus was a healer especially of the blind. They followed him in order to see if he would deliver them from their suffering (Luke 21:14).

3. What do you think of the blind man's parents response in John 9?

4. What are some common "Blind spots" you think most Christian people would say we live with in American today?

5. What do you think might be a "Blind Spot" that 100 years from now Christians will look back on and say, "How could so many Christian people and the Christian Church have missed that in 2010?"

6. What resources does God give us to see Him, ourselves and this world with great clarity?

7. What are some of the dynamics of "Denial"? What does this word mean to you? How can we be blind not just to ideas, but to realities about our life or the lives of others?

8. Is there anything I might be vulnerable to being blind to and in denial about today? What would my best friend say about that when thinking about my life?

9. What is God saying to me through John 9 today? What is God calling me to do in response to this passage?