

sent

Advent Guide
week three



TRANSFORMATION
CHURCH

Reading:

Luke 4:18-19

The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to preach good news to the poor.
He has sent me
to proclaim release to the captives
and recovery of sight to the blind,
to set free the oppressed,
to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor.

1 Peter 2:9

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his possession, so that you may proclaim the praises of the one who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

John 9:1-25

As he was passing by, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him: "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

"Neither this man nor his parents sinned," Jesus answered. "This came about so that God's works might be displayed in him. We must do the works of him who sent me while it is day. Night is coming when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

After he said these things he spit on the ground, made some mud from the saliva, and spread the mud on his eyes. "Go," he told him, "wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means "Sent"). So he left, washed, and came back seeing.

His neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar said, "Isn't this the one who used to sit begging?" Some said, "He's the one." Others were saying, "No, but he looks like him."

He kept saying, "I'm the one."

So they asked him, "Then how were your eyes opened?"

He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and told me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' So when I went and washed I received my sight."

“Where is he?” they asked.

“I don’t know,” he said.

They brought the man who used to be blind to the Pharisees. The day that Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes was a Sabbath. Then the Pharisees asked him again how he received his sight.

“He put mud on my eyes,” he told them. “I washed and I can see.”

Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, because he doesn’t keep the Sabbath.” But others were saying, “How can a sinful man perform such signs?” And there was a division among them.

Again they asked the blind man, “What do you say about him, since he opened your eyes?”

“He’s a prophet,” he said.

The Jews did not believe this about him—that he was blind and received sight—until they summoned the parents of the one who had received his sight.

They asked them, “Is this your son, the one you say was born blind? How then does he now see?”

“We know this is our son and that he was born blind,” his parents answered. “But we don’t know how he now sees, and we don’t know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he’s of age. He will speak for himself.” His parents said these things because they were afraid of the Jews, since the Jews had already agreed that if anyone confessed him as the Messiah, he would be banned from the synagogue. This is why his parents said, “He’s of age; ask him.”

So a second time they summoned the man who had been blind and told him, “Give glory to God. We know that this man is a sinner.”

He answered, “Whether or not he’s a sinner, I don’t know. One thing I do know: I was blind, and now I can see!”

Sent to the Blind

Devotional:

There was a man who was born blind and lived in darkness his whole life. Many assumed he was unloved by God. He had grown used to the darkness and didn't even recognize Jesus as He walked past, but he did not go unnoticed by Jesus. "As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." At that moment, Jesus stooped down, put mud on the eyes of the blind man, and commanded him to wash in the pool of Siloam (which means Sent). And wouldn't you know it? The man could see. For the first time, light flooded his eyes. He was bewildered as to what had actually happened to him.

When was the first time you stepped out of darkness into the light of Jesus? Do you remember how your eyes were opened, how your life was changed? The formerly blind man had a second encounter with Jesus and this time he was healed from spiritual blindness. He confessed his belief in Jesus as God's Son and worshiped Him.

When Jesus was reading the scroll of Isaiah in the synagogue, he said he was sent for, "...recovery of sight to the blind." It is true that He healed many of their physical blindness, but He healed many more of their spiritual blindness. Now we can proclaim His praises because He has called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

Prayer:

Jesus, You are the light of the world, and as we are conformed to Your image, we reflect Your light. Continue to open our eyes so that we can see who You want us to share Your light with. Lead us towards others with Your light and help us to open blind eyes. Amen.

Soul-tattoo:

Transformation Church, we are sent to the blind.