



STUDY 7

THE BLAME GAME

When someone is feeling sick, nurses work to figure out what's going on and find the best way to help. Sometimes it's easy to spot the problem, but other times, it's more complicated. A person's health isn't just about their body—it's also connected to their mind, emotions, relationships, and even their spiritual life. Check out how Jesus tackled the cause and healing of a man's blindness!

READ JOHN 9:1-7 (NIV)

¹ As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. ² His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?"

³ "Neither this man nor his parents sinned," said Jesus, "but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ As long as it is day, we must do the works of him who sent me. Night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ While I am in the world, I am the light of the world." ⁶ After saying this, he spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes.

⁷ "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means "Sent"). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.

BACKGROUND

John 9:1-7 tells the story of Jesus healing a man who was blind from birth, a miracle that challenged societal and religious beliefs at the time. In the first century, many Jews believed that illness or disability was a direct result of sin—either the person's or their parents'. When Jesus' disciples asked about this, Jesus rejected that idea, instead revealing that the man's blindness was an opportunity for God's power to be displayed. By healing him with mud and washing in the Pool of Siloam, Jesus not only restored the man's sight but also symbolized spiritual enlightenment, contrasting the blindness of the Pharisees who refused to see the truth.

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ASSESSMENT

- What do you think about the disciples' question at the beginning of the passage?
- What does Jesus say about the cause of the man's illness? What surprises you about how Jesus interacts with the blind man?



MY RESPONSES

TYPE YOUR RESPONSES INTO THIS BOX!

- Have you ever heard another healthcare worker tell a patient that an illness was caused by the person's actions or lifestyle choices – and you didn't think that assessment was completely fair? How did you feel when you heard this? How can you avoid making assumptions and placing judgment on others?
- From a nursing standpoint, what do you learn from how Jesus responds to those who want to place blame for the man's blindness?
- What do you notice about Jesus' power from this story? How does this impact the way you view his authority over the health of your patients?

PUTTING FAITH INTO PRACTICE

- The disciples assumed the man's blindness was caused by sin. **In nursing school or in your practice, have you ever found yourself making quick judgments about a classmate, professor, patient, or colleague? How can you practice more curiosity and empathy instead of assumption in your studies and clinical experiences?**
- Jesus' healing power reveals His authority over sickness. **How does this impact the way you pray for, support, and encourage your patients, others, and even yourself as you experience the challenges of nursing?**

CALL TO FAITH

A call to faith is an intentional invitation at your NCF meeting for students and nurses to respond to Jesus in several ways, including an invitation to follow him for the first time. At some point during the 8-week Bible study series, make space for a clear call to faith—inviting participants to respond to the gospel. Trust God’s leading on when and how, and feel free to extend the invitation more than once as the Spirit prompts.

BEFORE

PRAY: Ask God to move in powerful ways and pray that God will prepare hearts to respond to him.

PREPARE: Calls to faith are not something we do every meeting; practicing what you want to say can be helpful, including how you’ll transition to the response and connect it to the passage and your personal story during your meeting.

DURING

SET UP: Say something like: “As we close our discussion today, I want to create a space for us to respond to God and the hope he offers us through Jesus. We are all on a journey with Him; some of us have been with Him for a long time; we have said yes to Jesus and accepted His death on the cross as our punishment for our wrongdoing. Some of us are still curious about Jesus, and we fall everywhere in between. Tonight, we will make space for you to identify where you are in your journey with Jesus and take the next step.”

PRAY: Open in prayer, making room for silence. Ask your participants to prayerfully consider the responses on their card and choose one. End in prayer.

RESPONSE: Print the response card at the end of this bible study. Have one card printed for each person attending.

SHARE: Have people share their responses. Share yours first to break the ice.

CELEBRATE those who’ve decided to follow Jesus!

AFTER

Connect with each person about what they shared on their response card that they turned into you and invite them to take the next step.

Spend a few minutes in silence as you determine how Jesus is leading you to respond. Check one:

- ☐ **Commit my life**
I have decided to become a follower of Jesus.
- ☐ **Renew my faith**
I am already a follower of Jesus but have given Him a new area of my life. (vocation, relationships, etc.)
- ☐ **Lead with Jesus**
Jesus is calling me to take a risk for him. I am committing to: _____.
- ☐ **Seek the truth**
I am not ready to commit my life to Jesus but would like to talk with someone to learn more about Him.

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____



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