

SERMON OUTLINE

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Courage to Confess

October 18, 2009

I. Introduction

- A. Becoming the light of the world - **Matthew 5:13-16**
- B. 3 Weeks - Invite your friends - "The Unknown God"
- C. The challenge - talking to others - confessing

II. The Story of the Blind Man (John 9 - Follow along)

Sabbath; Blind from birth; Commotion; Makes clay from spit; Tell friends/neighbors; They tell the religious leaders of day; They bring in parents; One final questioning.

III. Lessons from the Blind Man

- A. Change the Way You Look at Life
 1. The disciples wanted to know where to place the BLAME
 2. Purpose = That the works of God might be displayed in him
 - a. There is OPPORTUNITY here - **1 John 3:1**
 3. **Side Note:** We have a job to do - Work while there is time
 4. **Side Note:** Jesus left him alone - find his way - find your way
- B. Greatest Influence is True Change
 1. They doubted his change - he was saying it is REAL
 2. **2 Corinthians 6:14-7:1** - Your life is different (It MUST be)
 3. True change is TOUGH
- C. Stand for the Truth
 1. When the world tells you - it is NOT true
 2. **John 8:31-32** - The truth shall make you free
 3. Holding to the truth is tough
- D. Be Willing to Stand Alone
 1. What did they think? They were afraid of the truth
 2. Pressure - **Matthew 10:34-36**
 3. Greatest challenge - standing alone
- E. Give glory to God
 1. Actions based on what he KNEW = TRUTH
 2. What we do says a lot about who we are - **1 John 2:3-5**

IV. Main Points

- A. Jesus came to distinguish the truth seekers - **John 9:39**
- B. The works of God are displayed in me - **Matt 5:13-16**