

BIBLE STUDY WORKBOOK

# MUD ON MY FACE, FAITH IN MY FEET

The Miracle in Process

## Core Theme

Sometimes God begins a miracle in a way that does not immediately look like improvement. Faith keeps walking while the miracle is still in process.

JOHN 9

## OVERVIEW

## HOW TO USE THIS STUDY

**Read**

Start with John 9 and observe the process.

**Reflect**

Let each section move from information to transformation.

**Respond**

Use the blanks and questions for personal or group discussion.

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**Big Idea:** Do not judge an unfinished miracle too early. The mud was not evidence that nothing happened. It was evidence that Jesus had started something.

## SECTION 1

**WHEN THE MIRACLE DOES NOT LOOK LIKE A MIRACLE YET**

*John 9:6 KJV "When he had thus spoken, he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay,"*

**Before the blind man ever saw light, he felt mud. Before he had a testimony, he had dirt on his face. Before people recognized the miracle, they saw the mess. This is one of the most powerful truths in John 9: sometimes God begins a miracle in a way that does not immediately look like improvement.**

The man was already blind, but after Jesus touched him, he looked worse. He now had mud on his face. His condition had not visibly changed, yet something divine had started. This teaches us that the beginning of a miracle is not always the same as the evidence of a miracle. God can be working before people can verify it. Heaven can be moving before the situation looks better.

Many believers live in this middle place. They have been touched by Jesus, but they do not feel complete yet. They have prayed, but still feel pressure. They have obeyed, but still feel pain. They have come to the altar, but still carry heaviness. The danger is judging the miracle too early. Do not call unfinished what God has only begun.

**Personal Notes**

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## SECTION 2

**BORN INTO WHAT HE DID NOT CHOOSE**

*John 9:1 KJV "And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth."*

**This man was not blind because of an accident. He was not blind because of old age. He was blind from birth. He came into the world carrying a condition he did not choose. Before he had language, before he had understanding, before he had the ability to explain himself, he was already marked by something broken.**

There are people who understand this deeply. Some battles were present before you knew how to fight. Some dysfunctions were waiting for you before you could name them. Some families, environments, fears, wounds, and patterns were already shaping you before you had the maturity to resist them. You did not volunteer for everything you have had to overcome.

But John 9 teaches us that what started before you had a choice is still not greater than the Creator. Jesus saw the man exactly where he was, but He did not leave him defined by where he started. Your beginning may explain part of your struggle, but it does not have authority to write your ending.

**Personal Notes**

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## SECTION 3

## WHEN PEOPLE TURN PAIN INTO A DISCUSSION

*John 9:2 KJV "And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?"*

**The disciples stood in front of a man with a lifetime of pain, but their first response was not compassion. Their first response was analysis. They wanted a theory. They wanted a cause. They wanted someone to blame. Instead of seeing a man, they saw a question.**

This still happens today. People can stand around someone's pain and speak confidently about what they have never carried. They ask, "Who caused this? What did they do? What is wrong with them? What happened in their family?" But not every question is healing. Some questions are accusations wearing religious language.

One of the signs of spiritual maturity is learning not to participate in conversations that were never designed to heal you. The blind man did not defend himself. He did not interrupt the discussion. He did not try to explain his whole life to people who were not carrying his burden. Sometimes deliverance begins when you stop giving emotional energy to conversations that only produce blame.

**Personal Notes**

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## SECTION 4

**JESUS DOES NOT PLAY THE BLAME GAME**

*John 9:3 KJV "Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him."*

**Jesus interrupted the blame cycle. The disciples asked, "Who caused this?" Jesus answered with purpose. They were looking backward, but Jesus was revealing what God was about to do. They were searching for a culprit, but Jesus was preparing a canvas for glory.**

This is a major shift in spiritual thinking. The enemy wants us trapped in the question of why. Why did this happen? Why did they hurt me? Why was I born into this? Why did I struggle so long? But Jesus moves us from explanation to manifestation. He does not always answer every detail of the past, but He reveals that the past is not too damaged for God to get glory from it.

The question is not only, "Where did this come from?" The greater question is, "Lord, what can You do with it?" God is able to take the very place of pain and turn it into a place of revelation. What people used to label becomes the place where God displays His works.

**Personal Notes**

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## SECTION 5

**THE CREATOR STILL WORKS WITH DUST**

*John 1:1 KJV "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God."*

**John does not introduce Jesus merely as a teacher or miracle worker. John reveals Him as God. He is the Word made flesh. He is the Creator walking among creation. So when Jesus stoops down and makes mud with the ground, this is not random. The One who formed humanity from the dust is now touching dust again to perform a creative miracle.**

This was not only healing. It was recreation. Jesus was showing that He is not afraid of human dirt. Religion often stands at a distance and analyzes. Jesus stoops down. Religion asks who sinned. Jesus touches the place of need. Religion labels the condition. Jesus begins the miracle.

God is not intimidated by the areas of your life that feel messy. He is not afraid of your humanity. He does not need you to look finished before He begins working. He can touch the dirt, the shame, the weakness, the history, and the pain, and use it as material for a miracle.

**Personal Notes**

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## SECTION 6

**OBEDIENCE COMPLETES WHAT THE TOUCH BEGINS**

*John 9:7 KJV "And said unto him, Go, wash in the pool of Siloam, (which is by interpretation, Sent.) He went his way therefore, and washed, and came seeing."*

**Jesus touched the man, but the miracle required movement. The clay was placed on his eyes, but sight came after obedience. He had to walk to the pool while still blind. He had to move while still messy. He had to obey before he had visible evidence.**

This is where many people struggle. We want God to finish everything instantly. We want touch without process, healing without obedience, breakthrough without movement. But in John 9, the man had to walk with mud on his face. He had to trust the word of Jesus before he could see the result of Jesus.

There is always a component of obedience in the miracle. Some people are waiting for sight before they walk, but this man walked before he saw. Faith is not only what we believe in our hearts. Faith is also what moves our feet when our eyes still cannot see.

**Personal Notes**

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## SECTION 7

**DO NOT JUDGE THE MIRACLE IN THE MIDDLE**

**The middle of the miracle can feel confusing. After Jesus touched the man, things became darker before they became clearer. He was already blind, and now his eyes were covered with clay. On the way to healing, he may have looked more embarrassed than before. But the mud was not proof that nothing happened. The mud was proof that Jesus had started something.**

This is important for every believer. Do not judge your healing while you are still walking to the pool. Do not judge your restoration while obedience is still in motion. Do not judge your calling while God is still forming you. The middle is not the conclusion.

You may not look free yet, but keep walking. You may not feel whole yet, but keep obeying. You may still carry evidence of process, but process is not failure. The touch was real even before the testimony was visible.

**Personal Notes**

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## SECTION 8

**WALK UNTIL YOU WASH**

**The man came seeing because he went and washed. The miracle was connected to his response. He could have stayed where he was and talked about the mud. He could have complained about the method. He could have refused the instruction because it did not make sense. But instead, he went.**

This is the word for the believer who feels unfinished: go wash. Keep moving toward obedience. Keep walking toward worship. Keep moving toward surrender. Keep walking toward the place Jesus commanded. Do not stop because you feel embarrassed. Do not stop because others do not understand. Do not stop because you still feel mud on your face.

The miracle is not denied because it is delayed in appearance. God has begun a good work, and He is faithful to complete what He started. Walk with faith in your feet until what God began becomes what others can see.

**Personal Notes**

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## WORKBOOK

## FILL IN THE BLANKS

Before the blind man saw light, he felt \_\_\_\_\_.

The beginning of a miracle does not always look like \_\_\_\_\_.

Some battles begin before we have the ability to \_\_\_\_\_ them.

The disciples wanted a theory, but Jesus revealed \_\_\_\_\_.

Not every question is healing. Some questions are accusations wearing \_\_\_\_\_.

Jesus moved the conversation from blame to \_\_\_\_\_.

The Creator is not afraid to touch our \_\_\_\_\_.

The miracle began with a touch, but it unfolded through \_\_\_\_\_.

Faith is not only what we believe in our hearts. Faith also moves our \_\_\_\_\_.

Do not judge the miracle in the \_\_\_\_\_.

**Answer Review / Notes**

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## WORKBOOK

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

What part of your life currently feels like “mud” instead of a miracle?

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Are there areas where you have been seeking blame instead of asking God for purpose?

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What conversation do you need to stop participating in because it is not producing healing?

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## RESPONSE

## REFLECTION CONTINUED

What step of obedience may God be asking you to take while you still cannot see the full result?

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How does John 9 help you trust God in the unfinished places of your life?

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**Closing Prayer:** Lord Jesus, help me trust Your work while I am still in process. Give me faith to keep walking until what You began becomes visible. Amen.