

Episode 3: Moon and Blood

Things are starting to heat up in this episode, with Quintus furious that he is losing revenue because of the tent city. He goes on a rampage picking on all of the people outside of his building. He is angry everyone is there to see Jesus.

But Jesus isn't going to stop preaching, just because Quintus is mad. He is going to do the opposite. He decides to go outside, and a crowd starts to form.

Jesus notices a man who is blind and goes to him. In the scripture below, underline the question the disciples asked about the blind man.

- **John 9:1-5 (ESV)** - ¹ As he passed by, he saw a man blind from birth. ² And his disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" ³ Jesus answered, "It was not that this man sinned, or his parents, but that the works of God might be displayed in him. ⁴ We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. ⁵ As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world."

I love the end of verse 3, "but that the works of God might be displayed in him." It is not the fault of the blind man; it is not the fault of his parents. His suffering is so that God might be displayed in him. Are you approaching your suffering with this mindset? Write a prayer below asking God to open your heart to this type of thinking. Thank him for using your suffering for his good.

- **John 9:6-7 (ESV)** - ⁶ Having said these things, he spit on the ground and made mud with the saliva. Then he anointed the man's eyes with the mud ⁷ and said to him "Go wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). So he went and washed and came back seeing.

Bible Reference

The episode opens with King David mourning his son, praying and fasting for him for 6 days.

- **2 Samuel 12:15-20 (ESV)** ¹⁵ Then Nathan went to his house, And the Lord afflicted the child that Uriah's wife bore to David, and he became sick. ¹⁶ David therefore sought God on behalf of the child. And David fasted and went in and lay all night on the ground. ¹⁷ And the elders of his house stood beside him, to raise him from the ground, but he would not, nor did he eat food with them. ¹⁸ On the seventh day the child died..... ¹⁹David understood that the child was dead. And David said to his servants, "Is the child dead?" They said, "His is dead." ²⁰ Then David arose from the earth and washed and anointed himself and changed his clothes. And he went into the house of the Lord and worshipped. He then went to his own house. And when he asked, they set food before him, and he ate.

DID YOU KNOW??

Bathsheba and David will end up having another son, named Solomon. King Solomon was called the wisest man who ever lived because he asked God for wisdom.

Jesus healed the man who had been blind since birth, allowing him to see for the first time. Because Jesus healed him on Shabbat, the Pharisees were upset.

Read the remainder of John 9 for the rest of the story which was played out in this episode (John 9:9-34). Fill in the chart below:

Question	Response (write the answer from the verse referenced below)
Where did the crowd take the blind man?	(Verse 13)
What did the Pharisees say about Jesus?	(Verse 16)
Who did the blind man say Jesus was?	(Verse 17)
Why were the parents of the blind man scared to answer the Pharisee's questions?	(Verse 22)
Who did the blind man say Jesus was the last time he was asked by the Pharisees?	(Verse 33)

James and John talk to their mom about Peter getting a new name. Their mother encourages them to ask for an elevated position/ title as well. She is so worked up, she says she will ask herself. She quotes Jesus in the below scripture.

Matthew 7:7-8 (ESV) – ⁷ “Ask, and it will be given to you; seek, and you will find; knock, and it will be opened to you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and the one who seeks finds, and the one who knocks it will be opened.

Do you have anything that you need to ask God for? Write a prayer below asking God for your request.

Ramah and Thomas share a sweet moment together talking about their engagement. Thomas gives her a small clock as a gift and tells her how he bartered cinnamon cakes for fish for a bookcase to finally get the clock he wanted to give her. Their relationship and love for one another is so touching.

Quintus lets his anger get the best of him. He is yelling at the crowd, trying to get to Jesus. In his anger he pulls out his sword and ends up stabbing Ramah. It didn't seem like he intentionally did this, but in his rage, he made a poor decision. Think about how you act when you are angry. Has there been a particular

situation that caused you to go into a fit of rage? How did you act, what can you do the next time this occurs?

Jesus comes back to the scene after Ramah has been stabbed. She is dying on the ground in Thomas' arms. Thomas is beyond upset, he is sobbing and holding her. When he sees Jesus, he asks him to heal her. It seems so easy and the perfect solution. Thomas believes in Jesus and his ability. He has seen him perform miracles, he knows Jesus is capable of healing her. But Jesus doesn't do it. He says it is not her time. Wow, what a hard answer to Thomas' pleading. But it happens to us too. Not all of our prayers are answered. We believe in Jesus, just like Thomas, and he doesn't answer our request. This is a really hard fact for us as Christians, but it is reality. Why do you believe Jesus has not answered some of your prayers?

Often an unanswered prayer isn't a "no", but a "not yet". Maybe you aren't ready for your request. Maybe what you are asking for is not part of God's plan for you because you can't handle it. Maybe he didn't heal you because you need that reminder that you aren't enough, you need God. Maybe he didn't heal that loved one because heaven is better than earth and you will be with them in the future. We don't know why God answers some prayers and not others, but we know his ways are better than ours, he has good plans for us (Jeremiah 29:11) and will work it all together for the good of those who believe (Romans 8:28).

James and John are deciding how to ask Jesus for an elevated status. Psalm 110:1 (ESV) is quoted "The Lord says to my Lord: "Sit at my right hand, until I make your enemies your footstool."
