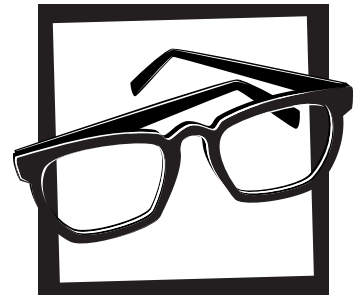


## READING

John 9:1, 6-12, 35-38

## SYNOPSIS

Jesus smears mud on the eyes of a blind man and enables him to see. When people question the man, he tells them what happened. Then Jesus reveals that he is God, and the man worships him.



## MATERIALS NEEDED

- Index card with “I believe” written on it in blue ink. Then write any other words in red ink to cover up the blue letters. If necessary, in order to block out “I believe,” write another set of red letters over them.
- Red cellophane (the size of an index card)
- A pair of eyeglasses
- Magnifying glass
- Dried mud

## DEMONSTRATION

1. Show the children a pair of glasses, a magnifying glass, and some dried mud. Ask: **How do you think these things are the same?** After hearing the children’s ideas, tell them that those things have been known to make people see better.
2. Say: **We know how glasses and a magnifying glass work—but, mud? Well, in the Gospel this week, Jesus used mud to bring eyesight to a man who had been blind since he was born.**
3. Read aloud today’s Gospel in its shorter form, John 9:1,6-9,13-17,34-38.
4. Ask: **How did Jesus use mud to help the man to see? (He smeared mud on the man’s eyes and then told him to wash it off.)** Say: **When the man did as Jesus said, he could see all the things around him that he had never seen before. But, the most important thing he could see was that Jesus is God, because only God could perform such a miracle.**
5. Ask: **Do you remember what the man said to Jesus?** Even if the children remember, show them the index card. Ask for a volunteer to hold the red cellophane over the card and to tell the class what is written on the card. If the children cannot read yet, have the volunteer tell the letters he or she sees so you can read them to the class and explain what they spell.
6. Say: **Sometimes even if we have good eyesight, we can’t see well. When things don’t go our way, for instance, we may not see that God still loves us.** [Show index card.] **Sometimes life gets jumbled up, and we need God’s help to figure it out. But when we have faith in Jesus, he will help us see God’s love.**
7. Pray together that we will have eyes of faith to see Jesus and his love for us. Pray together today’s psalm, Psalm 23, or pray the Lord’s Prayer.

