

Hello, wonderful Middle Schoolers!

I hope that you are doing your best to enjoy a summer that is unlike any other. I'm sure you are just as disappointed as we are that we were unable to have camp this year. Spending a week up at Trinity Pines is always one of the best parts of the summer and we were extra pumped to be with you! This year our theme was WEIRD and, in addition to a ton of weird (and fun!) games and activities, we were going to talk about just how WEIRD Jesus and his disciples were. In light of this theme, I want to share a quick story from the Bible with you.

In John 9, we see Jesus performing a miracle, but in a way that is straight up WEIRD. He and his disciples come across a man who has been blind since birth. One thing leads to another and, naturally, Jesus spits in the dirt and wipes it over the man's eyes. Hold up... WHAT?! Jesus decides to hock a loogie in some dirt, makes some mud with his spit, puts it on the dude's face, and then tells him to go find a pool to wash off in. I don't know about you, but I would be a little grossed out and thinking, "*This guy is WEIRD!*" But despite these strange circumstances, the man obediently stands up and stumbles off to find the pool Jesus is talking about. John 9:7 then says, "So he went and washed and *came back seeing.*" For real.

Jesus goes on to talk about how he came so that those who are blind may see. But he's not just talking about physical blindness! He's talking about spiritual blindness. God wants to open our eyes to see him, revealing new things with his light. And, like this blind man, HE seeks US out. Wherever we're at, God loves us so much that he wants to bring light into our darkness, even using something as weird as saliva to help us see him! So, when we are obedient to what God says (like the blind man stumbling to the pool), God is faithful to reveal himself to us. God is calling out to you, and that call might look a little WEIRD!

May this devotional allow you to be intentional about taking time to practice your "spiritual sight", opening your eyes to how God is at work in and through your life. You are loved!

Sheldon Field, James Shepherd, Kim Glenn, Rich Vasquez
Middle School Camp Directors