John's "Spiritual" Gospel
-Lesson Seven-

[John 9:1-10].....God Will Get His Glory

Vss.2-3 This is a philosophical question asked in sincerity.
His condition provides a teachable occasion where God's glory is revealed.

Vss.4-5 "Night is coming" – This is a message to the Johannine community to remain vigilant and committed in serving Christ in the face of persecution.

Vss.6-9 Siloam means "sent".
NOTICE: This man did not ask for healing.
Do you believe that there is a change in this man's appearance?

Vs.10 There is a hidden ecological message

[John 9:11-34].....A Missed Miracle

Vss.11-16 Division in the House - John reiterates the struggle with the Law in the "keeping of the Sabbath" (Mark 2:27).
the "keeping of the Sabbath"

Vss.18-23 The Synagogue was not just for worship and teaching, but also for status and acceptance. To be cast out would be detrimental for your societal position.
This man's parents could not see the full picture and their fear is real.

Vs.25 One of the most powerful statements in this gospel.
"This is the reflection of Christian experience; Christ does not wait on us to have the right Christological understanding before calling us to discipleship." *Peoples New Testament Commentary*, Craddock and Boring, pg. 319
John uses the "actions" of Jesus to prove Jesus is the Christ

Vss.27-34 DENIAL CAN LEAD TO INSANITY - these insults are compliments
Who wasn't born in sin? (Psalm 51:5)
And why would they listen to his testimony in the beginning?

[John 9:35-41].....Eye Openers

Vs.38 He worshipped Jesus. Why? Because He is Lord

Vss.39-41 Judgment. When you know better, you should do better

NOTE: John has masterfully included this story to further the point of those living in darkness, literally and spiritually.

Chapter 10 Summary

The Good Shepherd knows the sheep and is known by the sheep(vss. 5, 14-4). The Good
Shepherd loves the sheep enough to die for the sheep; even in the face of obvious danger(vss. 11-13). Jesus is the Good Shepherd. We are the sheep - ALL of us are the sheep(vs. 16).

John stresses discipleship throughout this gospel. But in this chapter, he makes a strong statement in favor of discipleship throughout this gospel. But in this chapter, he makes a strong statement in favor of discipleship: "I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no on can snatch them out of my hand" (vs.28). This verse, in light of this chapter, suggests that the followers of Christ receive eternal life because they are his *followers* - not because he died for them. This is one of the perplexing statements of salvation in this gospel.

NOTE: Notice the "I AM" statements in this chapter.