"I And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth. 2 And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? 3 Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. 4 I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day; the night cometh, when no man can work. 5 As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world, 6 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, 7 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. 8 The neighbours therefore, and they which before had seen him that he was blind, said, Is not this he that sat and begged? 9 Some said, This is he: others said, He is like him: but he said, I am he. 10 Therefore said they unto him, How were thine eyes opened? 11 He answered and said, A man that is called Jesus made clay, and anointed mine eyes, and said unto me, Go to the pool of Siloam, and wash: and I went and washed, and I received sight. 12 Then said they unto him, Where is he? He said, I know not. 13 They brought to the Pharisees him that aforetime was blind. 14 And it was the sabbath day when Jesus made the clay, and opened his eyes. 15 Then again the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. He said unto them. He put clay upon mine eyes, and I washed, and do see. 16 Therefore said some of the Pharisees. This man is not of God. because he keepeth not the sabbath day. Others said, How can a man that is a sinner do such miracles? And there was a division among them. 17 They say unto the blind man again, What sayest thou of him, that he hath opened thine eyes? He said, He is a prophet. 18 But the Jews did not believe concerning him, that he had been blind, and received his sight, until they called the parents of him that had received his sight. 19 And they asked them, saying, Is this your son, who ye say was born blind? how then doth he now see? 20 His parents answered them and said, We know that this is our son, and that he was born blind: 21 But by what means he now seeth, we know not; or who hath opened his eyes, we know not: he is of age; ask him: he shall speak for himself. 22 These words spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue. 23 Therefore said his parents, He is of age; ask him. 24 Then again called they the man that was blind, and said unto him, Give God the praise: we know that this man is a sinner. 25 He answered and said, Whether he be a sinner or no. I know not: one thing I know, that, whereas I was blind, now I see. 26 Then said they to him again, What did he to thee? how opened he thine eyes? 27 He answered them, I have told you already, and ye did not hear: wherefore would ye hear it again? will ve also be his disciples? 28 Then they reviled him, and said, Thou art his disciple; but we are Moses' disciples. 29 We know that God spake unto Moses: as for this fellow, we know not from whence he is. 30 The man answered and said unto them, Why herein is a marvellous thing, that ye know not from whence he is, and yet he hath opened mine eyes. 31 Now we know that God heareth not sinners: but if any man be a worshipper of God, and doeth his will, him he heareth. 32 Since the world began was it not heard that any man opened the eyes of one that was born blind. 33 If this man were not of God, he could do nothing. 34 They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out, 35 Jesus heard that they had cast him out; and when he had found him, he said unto him, Dost thou believe on the Son of God? 36 He answered and said, Who is he, Lord, that I might believe on him? 37 And Jesus said unto him, Thou hast both seen him, and it is he that talketh with thee. 38 And he said, Lord, I believe. And

he worshipped him. 39 And Jesus said, For judgment I am come into this world, that they which see not might see; and that they which see might be made blind. 40 And some of the Pharisees which were with him heard these words, and said unto him, Are we blind also? 41 Jesus said unto them, If ye were blind, ye should have no sin: but now ye say, We see; therefore your sin remaineth." (John 9:1-41 KJV)

Evangelism is to spread the Word of God and to make His grace known to those who are in need of Him. Evangelism is the desire and the will of God to reach the lost world. It is started from God who sent His Son Jesus Christ to search and look for the lost. He came to save His own but His own did not receive Him. Evangelism is to reach to the people, to help them in their troubles, but most of the time the people react and misunderstand the good plan of God toward them as they misunderstood Jesus and rejected His help to them. But still few they received Jesus and were glad to follow Him and declared His Word and will to the whole world. Therefore we should not be discouraged or faltered when we face resistance and when the religious and traditional system and setup oppose us and consider us an enemy to them. We are not better than Jesus; if they persecuted Him, they will persecute us, if they rejected Him they will also do the same with us, but we need to persevere and trust God that He will support us and He will help us and provide our needs and make our service and ministry to Him fruitful.

"And as Jesus passed by, he saw a man which was blind from his birth." (John 9:1 KJV) God had a good plan, for each and everyone, to meet Him and to have life eternal and life to the full. Jesus took the initiative to reach out that blind man who is not able to see Him. Those who did not call for Him, He will reach out. "I am sought of them that asked not for me; I am found of them that sought me not: I said, Behold me, behold me, unto a nation that was not called by my name." (Isaiah 65:1 KJV)

Evangelism is to reach blind people who are not able to see what is life and the way to heaven. That man was blind from his birth. He did not recognize Jesus when Jesus reached him, but Jesus recognized him and as the Scripture shows he had mercy on him. We are given birth with sin, the original sin that we inherit from Adam our father in the flesh, "12 Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned." (Romans 5:12 KJV) Therefore we are born with spiritual blindness, we are separated from God and we cannot see Him, therefore God sent His Son to the world to let us know God by declaring Him to us, "No man hath seen God at any time, the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him." (John 1:18 KJV) We need to meet Christ to get born again, and delivered out from the spiritual darkness and start to see Jesus the light of the world, "Then spake Jesus again unto them, saying, I am the light of the world: he that followeth me shall not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life." (John 8:12 KJV)

The healing of this man with blindness is a demonstration of what evangelism all about. This case is a microcosm to what God is doing to the whole world. It is reaching the whole world that is in darkness, with the light of Jesus. The whole world lives in darkness and needs the light of God through Jesus to be able to see. Jesus came to the world to open the eyes of the world that is spiritually blind. "Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be unstopped." (Isaiah 35:5 KJV) Apostle Paul was stricken with blindness when Jesus appeared to him, "8 And Saul arose from the earth; and when his eyes were opened, he

saw no man: but they led him by the hand, and brought him into Damascus." (Acts 9:8 KJV) and after that, while Paul was praying, "12 And hath seen in a vision a man named Ananias coming in, and putting his hand on him, that he might receive his sight." (Acts 9:12 KJV) Then Paul was visited by Ananias who laid his hand on him and scales failed from his eyes and was able to see, "17 And Ananias went his way, and entered into the house; and putting his hands on him said, Brother Saul, the Lord, even Jesus, that appeared unto thee in the way as thou camest, hath sent me, that thou mightest receive thy sight, and be filled with the Holy Ghost. 18 And immediately there fell from his eyes as it had been scales: and he received sight forthwith, and arose, and was baptized." (Acts 9:17-18 KJV) Paul was told by Ananias that he would see the Holy one, "14 And he said, The God of our fathers hath chosen thee, that thou shouldest know his will, and see that Just One, and shouldest hear the voice of his mouth." (Acts 22:14 KJV) Paul was taken into God's work through repentance, salvation, justification, and sanctification, and he was sent by God to evangelize, to open the eyes of the blind, and do all what God had done to him in his life, "18 To open their eyes, and to turn them from darkness to light, and from the power of Satan unto God, that they may receive forgiveness of sins, and inheritance among them which are sanctified by faith that is in me." (Acts 26:18 KJV) Evangelism is to go and open the eyes of the blind people, turn them from darkness into the light, turning them from the power and lies of Satan toward the truth of God so they will receive forgiveness of sins, salvation, and sanctification and secure their inheritance in heaven.

"And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" (John 9:2 KJV) The disciples here, they could be either his apostles or the disciples, and when they saw the blind man, the attention of the disciples was attracted to the miserable situation of the man and they started to ask about him. We in the same way today as we move with the direction that the Holy Spirit lead us, we will start to see things as Jesus would like us to see and to have concern toward the people affliction. They called Him, Master, and it means teacher, for he was teaching them. He was teaching them by His example, teaching them with the Word of God and teaching them in a practical way letting them see and pass through experiences that they need to pass through.

Jesus was teaching them by radiating to them the fruit of the spirit in His attitude and behavior by showing them concern, compassion, and affection to those who are afflicted and stretching the hand of goodness to rescue them and make their life better. We also in the same way, we teach the people around us with example, expressing the fruit of the Holy Spirit, teaching them with the Word of God, teaching them in a practical way by showing them the things that they need to pass through.

"And his disciples asked him, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" (John 9:2 KJV) The question of the disciples would reflect this concept; that if there is sickness it means there is sin. Yes and true that sin can cause sickness, but that is not always true. Sometimes there is sickness but there is no sin.

When the disciples asked Jesus, who did sin, this man, that he was born blind? This man was born blind from his mother womb, so he has no chance to commit sin before his birth. The disciples might had in their minds the wrong concept of the incarnation of souls (a doctrine of Hinduism), who believe that the soul would repeatedly incarnate after the death of person to another new born person. The concept of incarnation also teaches if that soul was evil then that

soul in the next incarnation will be given infirmity or even given the body of animal as a punishment to him to be humbled and changed to a better person. Sure that is a wrong concept, and that thought in the disciples needed to be corrected.

Also the disciples asked Jesus, saying, Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind? Biblically that is a correct possibility, for God may visit the sin of the parents in the life of the children. So here we need to be aware that our disobedience to God today, may bring curses and punishment to our children.

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

Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned: That person was blind from birth, so there is no sin that he would do. So here when Jesus answered them that this person did not sin, He nullified the thought of the incarnation from their minds. That wrong thought was also in the mind of the Pharisees because they said to the blind man after he was healed that he was born in sin, "They answered and said unto him, Thou wast altogether born in sins, and dost thou teach us? And they cast him out." (John 9:34 KJV)

Jesus in His endeavour to evangelize other people and reaching them with the grace of God, He needed to correct the wrong teaching that was in the mind of His disciples. Therefore in the same way, in our endeavour to evangelize we need to correct our coworkers and help them to realize the truth by using the very Word of God to correct them.

Jesus answered, Neither hath this man sinned, nor his parents: Jesus also vindicates the parents and declared that they did not do any sin contributes to the sickness and the suffering of their son.

but that the works of God should be made manifest in him. Jesus assured His disciples that this man was born blind so that the works of God should manifest in him. So in evangelism our purpose in reaching out the people, that the works of God shall be manifested in their lives. So when we move to evangelize we are carrying the message that will bring the works of God in the people's lives. We are moving to evangelize to bring the will of God to come true in their lives.

Therefore, we need to realize that as when God reached us His works was manifested clearly in our lives, then when we move to evangelize our aim should be that God's works shall be manifested in the people that we are reaching out.

But that the works of God should be made manifest in him. Not only one work, but works, so there are series of works that God will do in the person life when He introduce Himself to that person and as the followings: The work of repentance: the work of regeneration: the work of justification: the work of healing: the work of miracles, and so on.

The Psalmist speaks about the works of God: "2 <u>The works of the Lord are great</u>, sought out of all them that have pleasure therein. 3 His work is honourable and glorious: and his righteousness endureth for ever. 4 <u>He hath made his wonderful works to be remembered</u>: the Lord is gracious and full of compassion 5 He hath given meat unto them that fear him:

he will ever be mindful of his covenant. 6 <u>He hath shewed his people the power of his works</u>, that he may give them the heritage of the heathen. 7 The works of his hands are verity and judgment; all his commandments are sure." (Psalm 111:2-7 KJV)

Elihu also spoke to Job about the works of God: "Hearken unto this, O Job: stand still, and consider the wondrous works of God." (Job 37:14 KJV) Solomon wrote and mentioned about the works of God, "As thou knowest not what is the way of the spirit, nor how the bones do grow in the womb of her that is with child: even so thou knowest not the works of God who maketh all." (Ecclesiastes 11:5 KJV) The apostles in the day of Pentecost declared the works of God, "Cretes and Arabians, we do hear them speak in our tongues the wonderful works of God." (Acts 2:11 KJV) Therefore we are called to do the works of God, and to let the works of God be manifested in the life of the people that we are reaching out.

"I must work the works of him that sent me, while it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work." (John 9:4 KJV) Jesus when He saw that man, He was in urgent need to do the works of God in the life of that man and to set him free from his blindness. Therefore, we also in the same way, we must have compassion on the people and do the works of God in their lives, so they will get delivered from darkness into his marvelous light.

I must work the works of him that sent me: Again Jesus here mentioned the works of God. Jesus was sent by God in order to do certain works that God had assigned to him to do. Therefore He needed to be on time and accomplish every work that God wanted Him to finish. For this reason Jesus would do this healing on the Sabbath day and He knew that this action of kindness toward this blind man will be faced with non acceptance from the Pharisees, but He cannot postpone it to the next day. He needs to do it on that day even others will get upset and disturb. They will get upset and disturb because they have wrong thoughts. Therefore Jesus would do it again on the Sabbath to correct their thoughts. Evangelism is to stir the whole world and even hell. When we evangelize and people are not going to be disturbed, then we are not doing the works of God. If we plan to evangelize in a way that we expect no one to be disturbed then we are non effective in our evangelism. Jesus would prefer to set this man free on the Sabbath so He will give a clear message to the religious and traditional setup to repent and give up their own wrong thoughts that crippling the people. The Sabbath was made for man to rest. To heal a sick people is an urgent work and cannot be postponed. Therefore, Jesus will do the works of God on the Sabbath so the people would receive peace and rest and their lives to be better. Our effort for evangelism would finally make the lives of those whom we are reaching out better.

While it is day: the night cometh, when no man can work. Day's hours are working hours: and in the night the man sleep for rest, but to wake up morning for a new day and for another task to do. "20 Thou makest darkness, and it is night: wherein all the beasts of the forest do creep forth. 21 The young lions roar after their prey, and seek their meat from God. 22 The sun ariseth, they gather themselves together, and lay them down in their dens. 23 Man goeth forth unto his work and to his labour until the evening." (Psalm 104:20-23 KJV) As long as we have opportunity to work we need to do all what is assigned to us, because there will be time that we will not have opportunity to work, or there will be nothing to do for man. Therefore we need to be diligent to accomplish what we are asked and sent by God to do. Jesus was sent by God to heal not only that blind man but the whole world from blindness and the bondages of the culture and religiosity.

"As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." (John 9:5 KJV) It is a clear principle that Jesus adopted. As long as He was in the world, He was the light to bring people from darkness into the light. We are also the same, and good for us to adopt this same principle: As long we are in the world, we are the light of the world. Jesus told His disciples, "Ye are the light of the world." (Matthew 5:14 KJV) "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." (Matthew 5:16 KJV) That is for us too, to go forward in this world carrying the message of God, and bringing the light into this dying and blind world. Ignorance is the main sin that keeps the people in darkness. Therefore we go to them and bring to them the Word of truth that will gives light into their lives.

"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." (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: As Jesus prepared His mind for action, He moved forward to do the measure that would bring healing to that blind man.

he spat on the ground, and made clay of the spittle, and he anointed the eyes of the blind man with the clay: Jesus used a strange method to bring the healing for that man. He could heal him with a Word, but He chose another method that it might look strange. Why He choose that method of using his saliva to make a clay? No one knows, only He. But we may put some thoughts and reasons that we may realize what the Holy Spirit speaks to us today.

- 1. God is sovereign and we cannot dictate on Him the method that He would use to heal. God would do what He wants to do, therefore we cannot dictate on Him how He will provide for us, how to lead us, or how to answer our prayers.
- 2. Jesus would do certain work (making a clay) to bring the healing to that man, so He will combat the Pharisees with their rigid and irrational teaching and wrong stand about the Sabbath. The healing that Jesus was doing on the Sabbath was more opposed when Jesus would do it with certain work and measures, that the Pharisees would be mad at it since he is doing a physical work to bring the healing of God in the lives of the people. Certain time in evangelizing we may need to do certain measures that would cause the people to be mad on us, but we should not be reluctant to do that so the message of God would be more clear and effective.
- 3. Jesus used a very primitive and unacceptable method to the people in general to bring that healing. Jesus used the saliva from his mouth to heal that blind man. He spitted on the ground, and he used his hand to make clay from the dirt on the ground and later on He anointed the eyes of the blind man. Possibly the blind man because he did not see what Jesus was doing he did not object to apply the clay on himself and specifically on his eyes. Who will be glad that clay wet by a saliva from a mouth of a man be used as medicine for his eyes? None.

All eyes drops and ointment are to be used under a strict hygiene. But Jesus here treated the matter lightly. Was He testing the humility of that man and would see will he accept it or not? It might be an unclean method but that was done and approved by God. The saliva of Jesus is

more powerful than the palm of Gilead, and it is more powerful than all the medicine of the world. What Jesus did is a foolishness to the world but it is the power and the wisdom of God to bring such a healing. Similar to that the cross of Jesus which is foolishness to those who perish, but it is the power and the wisdom of God to those who believe.

God with such method would struck our pride and bring us down to humble us. Sometime we are so sophisticated and over clean and so sensitive from dirt, that is why God allow such way for treatment infront of our ways to break us from relying on our own righteousness and self trust.

- 4. If that is the method that Jesus used to evangelize to that particular man, we need also to accept whatever method and design God would lead us to be used to bring souls into His Kingdom. Therefore we need to comply with the available methods that God will bring into our hands.
- 5. God created the first man from the ground, "7 And the LORD God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul." (Genesis 2:7 KJV) As God made the first man from the dust of the earth, Jesus healed that man by the clay that He anointed his eyes with. In this way God is declaring His sovierghnity as God over our lives.
- 6. The saliva that Jesus used is Biblical and mentioned in the Bible. "I counsel thee to buy of me gold tried in the fire, that thou mayest be rich; and white raiment, that thou mayest be clothed, and that the shame of thy nakedness do not appear; and anoint thine eyes with eyesalve, that thou mayest see." (Revelation 3:18 KJV) Here Jesus invited the church at Laodicea to buy saliva from Him and apply it on their eyes so they can see.

My dear and beloved: Be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit. Be obedient to go into the direction that God is leading you to move, because once you will obey then you will find yourself reaching out people who are in need of salvation, in need of deliverance and in need of Jesus in their lives.

God is calling you today to carry the message and apply certain methods in your ministry in order to evangelize reaching certain people to help them and bring the salvation of God and the healing of Jesus in their lives.

You are called also to watch the people who are serving the Lord with you, that you may need to correct them and the wrong belief that they believe.

You may even be called to break certain tradition and certain cultural things that the people believes. They may even hates you as you are doing that. You might be hated and persecuted for Jesus, but the Lord shall uphold you with His grace and He will protect you and provide for you as you determine to do His will.

Commit yourself to the principles that you had learned in the message, and commit yourself to the calling of God in your life to be a blessing to others in bringing them to Christ, and in bringing His salvation, healing and blessings to them.

My Prayer: Father God I come before you in the name of Jesus, who died on the cross for my sins and rose from the death to give me eternal life.

Lord I thank you for your word that makes your callings clear to me. Lord I commit myself to the principles that I learned from this message.

Lord I will go into the direction that you are leading me to reach the people that you wants me to help them to know you and to receive your salvation, your mercy and your grace.

Lord I am willing to go out with you to the field that you are directing me, to reach the lost to direct them to know you. Lord I renounce all the traditional and the social practices that is against your Word and your will. Lord I am willing to go against people's culture and traditions and to use the method that you wants me to use in evangelism.

Lord refills me with the Holy Spirit and gives me the spiritual gifts that I need in my life to serve you, to evangelize and to heal the sick. Lord sustains me with a good health and the needed strength to do this ministry.

Lord I pray for my Brothers and my Sisters who committed their lives to go and evangelize, Lord Baptize them with the Holy Ghost, and give them the spiritual gifts to go and spread your Word. Lord I pray that you will protect them and provide their needs and do marvelous miracles in their lives and in their ministries.

Lord bless your church, and enable us Lord to reach new people, new families, new villages, and new areas with the gospel, impacting new cities, countries and nations with the gospel of Jesus. Lord enables us to preach boldly your Word and to do the very thing that you wants us to do.

Lord enables us to plant new Bible studies and more congregations in various places. Lord bless us, enlarge our territory, let your hand be with us and free us from harm so that we will not feel pain. May the grace of the Lord Jesus and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all in Jesus name, Amen.

Dr. Ramiz Khalaf The Church Overseer Church of God United Arab Emirates Email: thebread1@gmail.com Mobile Tel #: 00971551902647

Note: The Bread of Life is a weekly publication from the Church of God, United Arab Emirates. For further issues and more spiritual enrichment you can visit our web site at: www.churchofgoduae.com.

Share the message with your friends.

Please share with us your view about the message and if you have any question.

If you have a prayer request, please send it to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.

Please send your tithes, your first fruit, and your various offerings to the church to this account

BANK NAME:

First Abu Dhabi Bank (FAB)

ACCOUNT NAME:

RAMIZ BAHNAM ABBO KHALAF

ACCOUNT NO.: 1576003753162014

IBAN:

AE380351576003753162014

SWIFT CODE: NBADAEAACPU

Or contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.

If you need counseling in area of your life, whether about family, children or finances, please be free to contact me to this whatsapp Number: 00971551902647, or to this email: thebread1@gmail.com.