Talk About It:

- Do you like being in the dark? How do you feel when it is so dark you cannot see?
- Share about a time when you were afraid, and someone came to comfort you.

Read About It:

Today's story tells how Jesus healed a blind man. Read about it from John 9:1-15*

One day Jesus and His disciples came across a man who had been born blind. Back then there were no Braille books for blind people, no seeing-eye-dogs, and no way for a blind person to work. This man had no choice but to beg for money. The disciples asked an interesting question. They asked Jesus, "Teacher, who sinned? Was this man born blind because he sinned? Or did his parents sin?"

"It isn't because this man sinned," said Jesus. "It isn't because his parents sinned. This happened so that God's work could be shown in his life.

Then Jesus spit on the ground and made some mud with the spit. He put the mud on the blind man's eyes. "Go," Jesus told the man. "Wash in the Pool of Siloam (Sa-Lo-Um)." So the man obeyed Jesus. He went and washed.

After the man washed off the mud, he could see for the first time in his life! When he went home, his neighbors could hardly believe what had happened. He told them that Jesus had put mud on his eyes, and when he washed it away, he could see!

All this sounds really great, but the religious leaders doubted Jesus and they wanted the blind man (who could now see!) to explain how all of this had happened. They did not like jesus and they did not believe the man's story about the spit and the mud and the washing, so they kicked him out and yelled at him.

Jesus heard about this and went to the once-blind man to ask him if he believed in who Jesus really was. The man who had been blind did believe and he worshipped Jesus.

*Adapted from https://bible.org/seriespage/6-jesus-heals-man-born-blind-john-9

- Jesus made sure his disciples knew that the blind man was not blind because he had done something wrong. Have you ever thought that bad things happen to you because you did something wrong?
- Jesus made the blind man see with his eyes, but he also helped him see the truth about God. What did the once-blind man do when Jesus asked if he believed in him?

Sing About It:

When the once-blind man was asked how Jesus made him see, he said all he knew was "I was blind, and now I can see!" (John 9:25). These words are part of a wonderful old song called "Amazing Grace." Sing along and praise God for the wonderful grace and love of Jesus.

Amazing Grace (Lifetree Kids, Power Lab Music Video, Group Publishing)

Think About It:

- How do you think the blind man felt when Jesus put mud on his eyes? Imagine what it was like for him to be led to the Pool of Siloam to wash off the mud. How do you think he felt walking around with mud on his face?
- Why do you think the religious leaders did not believe the man's story about spit and mud and washing? Would you have had a hard time believing his story?
- After the religious leaders kicked the man out and yelled at him, Jesus came to find him. Why do you think Jesus did that?

Make It:

Make some yummy mud and dirt to eat!

Supplies: chocolate pudding cups, chocolate sandwich cookies

Crush up one cookie for each pudding cup. Stir half of the crushed cookie into your pudding. Sprinkle the rest of the cookie on top.

Enjoy your mud and dirt snack while you talk about how Jesus used mud to make a blind man see!

Do It:

Sometimes we use the words "I see" to mean that we understand something. This doesn't mean that we "see" with our eyes, but that we "see" by understanding with our minds. Jesus helped the blind man to see with his eyes, but also helped him to "see" or understand God better. How can you help others "see" God better? Here are some ideas:

- Tell someone today's Bible story and ask them the questions from this lesson.
- Tell someone how you have experienced Jesus' love in your life.
- Pray for someone who doesn't know about Jesus, that God would help them "see" more about what Jesus is like

Pray About It:

Thank you, Jesus for helping us to see what God is like. Open our eyes and our hearts to understand you more and more as we learn and grow. Amen.

Memorize It:

I know this: I was blind, and now I can see! John 9:25