Two Important Scenes Needed to Understand the Healing of the Blind Man (John 9:1-7)

1. Jesus prepares His disciples for the sign (vv.1-5)
   1. Jesus corrects His disciples’ simplistic analysis of suffering (vv.1-3)
      1. The cause of the blindness misdiagnosed (v.2; cf. 5:14)
      2. The divine purpose of the blindness disclosed (v.3; Ex. 4:11; John 11:4-6)
   2. Jesus connects His disciples to His work (vv.4-5; cf. 14:12)
      1. The urgent necessity of Christ’s work
         1. Owing to His commission by the Father (“the one who sent me”)
         2. Owing to His soon departure (“night is coming”) (cf. 9:39; 12:35)
         3. Owing to His identity as the Light of the world (“I am the light of the world”) (cf. 8:12; 12:46)
      2. The disciples’ work based on Christ’s work
         1. Their union with Christ is the foundation (“we must work”)
         2. Their time is limited (“when no one is able to work”; cf. 4:34-45, 38)
         3. Their task is to mediate Christ to the world (“I am the light of the world”)
2. Jesus performs a symbolic sign (vv.6-7)
   1. Jesus is the creator come to restore His creation (v.6; cf. Gen. 2:7; Isa. 35:5-6)
   2. Jesus will accomplish this work through sending the Holy Spirit (v.7; cf. 7:37-38; 14:26; 15:26; 16:7; 16:7-11)