



Achan Eyes:

Suggested Props:

- A pair of reading glasses, goggles, magnifying glass & binoculars
- Cowboy Hat [or Ball Cap]
- [Optional] An Eye Chart
- [Optional] *Anatomy of a Christian Cowboy_Achan Eyes Worksheet*

Psalm 119:18 Open thou mine eyes, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law."

Introduction:

Now that I am getting older I don't see as clearly as I once did. Sometimes, young people need glasses to see clearly also. Even if you have clear vision reading glasses can magnify small print or even enable you to see a splinter that needs to be removed. [Have someone try on the reading glasses, then use the magnifying glass to see something extra small, etc.]

Sometimes even with good vision you need some help to see. If you want to see well under water, you might need goggles to see clearly.

To see something far away, especially on a sunny day, you might simply use your cowboy hat [or ball cap] and tip the rim to block the sun from obscuring your vision. At other times you might need to resort to binoculars especially out on the range to see in the distance.

Did you know we have someone out there that wants us to be blinded all the time so that we cannot understand God's plan for our lives?

2 Corinthians 4:4 In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.

God intended for our eyes to see wondrous things. However, if you look at the first mention of our eyes in the Bible, you see a description of how the eyes were instrumental in committing the first sin in the Garden of Eden.

Genesis 3:5 For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your eyes shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.

Genesis 3:6 And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the eyes....

Message:

God intended for us to use our eyes to see wondrous things and marvelous things. He put mankind in a beautiful garden with everything provided and gave only ONE rule or law. It was a simple law and easy to keep but Eve's and Adam's eyes had a problem. They had Achan eyes! They saw the fruit on the forbidden tree and then they decided to disobey the only law that God had given them.

In the Book of Joshua we find a time when God instructed Joshua to leave the spoils of Jericho to remind the people that God delivered Jericho to them and that the first fruits of the Promised Land belonged to the Lord. Joshua made it clear to everyone; but a person named Achan let his eyes convince him to disobey.

Joshua 7:21 When I saw among the spoils a goodly Babylonish garment, and two hundred shekels of silver, and a wedge of gold of fifty shekels weight, then I coveted them, and took them...

Here's the story: Joshua chapter 6 tells how God instructed the Children of Israel to defeat Jericho by merely walking around the city. You see, the city was full of idol worshipping people and God was giving the Promised Land which included the territory of Jericho to the Israelites.

God knew how these shiny trinkets inside of Jericho would catch their eyes and cause them trouble. God told them the gold and silver stuff was to be consecrated to the Lord and that everything was to be left alone.

God knew that they all had eye trouble, just like we all have eye trouble, and He is trying to help us.

Most people obeyed; which is good news, but Achan did not obey and it cost him his life.

God intended for us to use our eyes to glorify Him & thus to stay out of harm's way.

- Our eyes can show where God wants us to go. ***[Genesis 22:4 Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw a place afar off.]*** Instead of looking around you and getting distracted, look forward to where God has prepared a place for us that are born again.
- Our eyes can see blessing and happiness that He has prepared for us. ***[Genesis 24:63 Isaac..lifted up his eyes, and saw, and behold the camels were coming....]*** Besides having the promise of a wonderful eternity, God wants to give us joy and happiness here in this life if we will only keep our eyes focused in the right direction. You need to keep your eyes on Him.
- Our eyes can teach us to fear the Lord. ***[Psalm 36:1 The transgression of the wicked saith within my heart, that there is no fear of God before his eyes.]*** This Holy Book gives us his law and commandments. It also gives us His preferences and what He delights in. The only way to learn God's will for our lives is to open the Bible and study.
- Our eyes can be closed to wickedness if we choose to obey the Lord. ***[Psalms101:3 I will set no wicked thing before mine eyes: I hate the works of them that turn aside; it shall not cleave to me]*** Once you know something is sinful, then, you must turn your eyes away from it and avoid temptation. To look on sin will cause **EYE STRAIN**. Looking on sin will result in Achan eyes!

You don't have to put up with Achan eyes: You can train your eyes to focus on God's Word and on the things God has prepared for you.

When you have Achan eyes it will only cause you a multitude of trouble and Achan eyes can be a fatal condition!!

Present Salvation. Refer to Salvation information at www.wranglerchurch.com

Downloadable flashcards available.

Take-Home or Class-Time: *Anatomy of a Christian Cowboy_Achan Eyes Worksheet.*



Do you have Achan Eyes?

Fill in the Blanks [KJV]:

Psalm 119:18 **Open thou mine _____, that I may behold wondrous things out of thy law."**

2 Corinthians 4:4 **In whom the god of this world _____ the minds of them which believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them.**

Genesis 3:5 **For God doth know that in the day ye eat thereof, then your _____ shall be opened, and ye shall be as gods, knowing good and evil.**

Genesis 3:6 **And when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was pleasant to the _____....**

God is trying to help us; what would HE have us look upon? Put an X on Achan Eyes & Circle what God would have us look upon:

