

# Life Changing Community Group Discussion Questions

week of 3/15/26

## **Summary**

This sermon from John 9 explored the story of Jesus healing a man born blind and the various responses from different groups of people. Pastor Joel examined how the disciples, neighbors, family, and religious leaders all had preconceived notions about how God works that prevented them from recognizing God's miraculous work right in front of them. The message challenged listeners to examine whether they too might be 'vision impaired' by drawing boundaries and circles that are smaller than God's grace and work in the world.

## **Intro Prayer**

Gracious God, as we gather together to study Your Word, we ask that You would open our hearts and minds to what You want to teach us today. Help us to set aside our preconceived notions and assumptions so that we might see You more clearly. Give us eyes to see how You are working in our lives and in our community, even in ways we might not expect. Holy Spirit, speak to each of us according to our need, and help us to be receptive to Your truth. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

## **Ice Breaker**

Share about a time when you had to get glasses or contacts for the first time, or when you realized you needed them. What was it like to suddenly see clearly?

## Key Verses

1. John 9:1-3
2. John 9:25
3. 1 Samuel 16:7
4. Psalm 23:1-6

## Questions

1. Why do you think the disciples immediately assumed someone had sinned when they saw the blind man? How do we sometimes make similar assumptions today?
2. The man's neighbors refused to believe he was the same person after being healed. When have you struggled to accept that someone has genuinely changed?
3. How did the man's parents respond when questioned about their son's healing, and what does this teach us about standing up for what's right?
4. The Pharisees were so focused on the Sabbath law that they missed God's miraculous work. What 'rules' or expectations might blind us to how God is working today?

5. Jesus said 'I was blind, but now I see' became the man's simple but powerful testimony. What would your simple testimony of God's work in your life be?
  
6. Pastor Joel asked 'Are we blind too?' - meaning are we drawing circles smaller than God's grace? Where might we be limiting God's work in our thinking?

## **Life Application**

This week, ask God to show you one person in your life whom you may have written off or made assumptions about. Pray for that person daily and look for opportunities to see them through God's eyes of love and grace. Consider how you might extend kindness or support to them.

## **Key Takeaways**

- God sees potential and opportunity where others see problems and blame
  
- Our preconceived notions about how God works can blind us to His actual work
  
- Sometimes we draw boundaries and circles that are much smaller than God's grace
  
- Jesus actively seeks out those who have been cast out and rejected by others

- We are all recipients of God's grace and have no grounds for excluding others

## **Ending Prayer**

Lord Jesus, thank You for being the light of the world who gives sight to the blind - both physically and spiritually. Help us to examine our own hearts and see where we might be drawing circles too small for Your grace. Give us courage to stand with the vulnerable and outcast, just as You did. Open our eyes to see how You are working in unexpected ways and through unexpected people. May we never become so comfortable in our assumptions that we miss Your miraculous work right in front of us. Transform our vision to match Yours, full of love, grace, and hope for all people. In Your precious name we pray, Amen.