

HIS|STORY

Small Group Questions • Week of 07/30/17

Going Blind • John 9:13-40

Getting Started

- 1) How good or bad is your eyesight?

Digging Deeper (Read John 9:13-40)

The Big Idea: This story ends with Jesus declaring that he came so that the *blind may see*, and that *those who see may become blind*. The chapter is an illustration of this. Because of Jesus' ministry, one man's sight gradually grows so clear that he ends up worshipping Jesus (vs.38). At the same time, we observe a group whose sight grows so dim that they renounce Jesus. This passage helps us to see how our spiritual sight becomes better or worse.

- 2) The healed man's understanding of Jesus increases throughout the chapter.

- a) Look at the following verses and talk about how his vision of Jesus gets clearer: 10-11, 17, 26-33, and 35-38.

- b) Is this like your story of faith?

- 3) In verse 15 we find a particular question the Pharisees asked "again."

- a) What is the question and identify every time it's brought up.

- b) In a bit of sarcasm, the man suggests that the Jews keep asking this question to avoid Jesus' claims (vss.27-28). What are some every day examples of asking questions to confirm our opinions rather than getting at truth?

- c) We have the uncanny ability to talk ourselves out of truths into lies. What are some positive things God says about you that you tend to talk yourself out of believing? Negative things?

- 4) Scripture often links spiritual blindness with forgetting basic truths God has already established (cf. Duet. 4:9; 8:10-14). One of the reasons the Jews cite for dismissing Jesus is his violation of the Sabbath (vs.16), even though Jesus already made an irrefutable case.

- a) Look at Mark 2:23-3:6 for one example of Jesus irrefutable case.

- b) In the message the speaker mentioned a very basic truth that we tend to forget and it therefore makes things more complicated: *whatever we are going through, if you are a Christian, act like a Christian*. How would remembering this basic truth have helped you recently?

- 5) One major contributor to the Jew's growing blindness is their attempt to silence voices of truth.

- a) Where do we find their attempts to suppress the truth in the passage?

- b) Give some recent examples of how this has been happening in our culture.

- c) Who are some truth-tellers in your life, and how have they helped you with your blind spots?

Putting It Into Practice

- 6) True seeing always results in worship (vs.38). What's one take away from this passages that encourages and challenges your devotion to Jesus?