

OPENING THOUGHT

WE ALL HAVE BLIND SPOTS—AREAS WE DON'T EVEN REALIZE WE CAN'T SEE. SOMETIMES THOSE BLIND SPOTS SHOW UP IN HOW WE THINK ABOUT SUFFERING, SIN, OTHERS, OR EVEN GOD. JESUS CAME NOT ONLY TO HEAL OUR VISION BUT TO EXPOSE THE PLACES WHERE WE'VE MISUNDERSTOOD GRACE, TRUTH, AND LOVE.

KEY SCRIPTURE VERSES

- JOHN 9:3
- JOHN 9:5
- JOHN 9:39

JOHN 9:25 NLT - "I DON'T KNOW WHETHER HE IS A SINNER," THE MAN REPLIED. "BUT I KNOW THIS: I WAS BLIND, AND NOW I CAN SEE!"

KEY POINTS

- EVERYONE HAS SPIRITUAL BLIND SPOTS—AREAS WHERE WE ASSUME WRONGLY OR MISS WHAT GOD IS DOING.
- BLAMING OTHERS (OR OURSELVES) FOR SUFFERING IS A DAMAGING THEOLOGICAL BLIND SPOT.
- JESUS BRINGS PURPOSE, NOT PUNISHMENT, TO OUR PAIN.
- RELIGIOUS RULES CAN SOMETIMES KEEP US FROM SEEING REAL TRANSFORMATION.
- THE CLEAREST TESTIMONY ISN'T A POLISHED EXPLANATION, BUT A CHANGED LIFE.

5 DISCUSSION QUESTION'S

1. WHAT ARE SOME COMMON SPIRITUAL BLIND SPOTS YOU'VE SEEN IN TODAY'S CULTURE—OR MAYBE EVEN IN YOURSELF?
2. HAVE YOU EVER FELT BLAMED (OR BLAMED YOURSELF) FOR SUFFERING IN YOUR LIFE? HOW DID THAT AFFECT YOUR VIEW OF GOD?
3. HOW DO YOU RELATE TO THE MAN'S SIMPLE BUT POWERFUL TESTIMONY: "I WAS BLIND, BUT NOW I SEE"?
4. WHAT DOES THIS STORY REVEAL ABOUT HOW JESUS TREATS THOSE MARGINALIZED BY RELIGIOUS SYSTEMS?
5. WHAT WOULD IT LOOK LIKE FOR JESUS TO "SHINE LIGHT" INTO A BLIND SPOT IN YOUR LIFE RIGHT NOW?

CLOSING ENCOURAGEMENT

JESUS DOESN'T CONDEMN OUR BLIND SPOTS—HE MEETS US IN THEM WITH GRACE AND HEALING. LIKE THE MAN IN JOHN 9, YOU DON'T NEED PERFECT ANSWERS OR FLAWLESS FAITH. YOU SIMPLY NEED TO LET JESUS OPEN YOUR EYES. AND WHEN HE DOES, EVERYTHING CHANGES.

YOU DON'T HAVE TO SEE EVERYTHING CLEARLY TO BELIEVE. BUT WHEN JESUS TOUCHES YOUR BLIND SPOT, YOU'LL NEVER SEE THE SAME AGAIN.