



Eyes Wide Open

As he went along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” “Neither this man nor his parents sinned,” said Jesus, “but this happened so that the works of God might be displayed in him. John 9:1-3

Getting on the Same Page

As we continue in this “Come and See” Series, we are once again invited to come and see this Jesus that is revealing more and more about himself and, as a result, more and more about God. In the ninth chapter of John’s Gospel we are introduced to a man who begins to follow Jesus based on limited information. This man, who was born blind, said he only knew one main thing—and that one thing was enough to make him curious about who Jesus really was. That one thing about Jesus was enough for him to invite others to come and see.

Discussion Questions

Getting Started

- What are some things people put full trust in without having all the information?
- Give some examples of proof people would like to have before believing in God.

Study Read John 9:1–34

- Observations? Questions? What was most significant to you?

- In verse 2, there was an assumption that sin and suffering were directly connected. Were you raised to believe that? In what ways do we still struggle to separate these for ourselves and in the lives of others?
- In verse 3, Jesus said that purpose can be found in the lifelong suffering of the blind man. How does it resonate with you that suffering might have a purpose tied to it?
- Read John 9:24–25, where the formerly blind man focuses on the main thing—he could now see! How does what the man said remind you of something that happened in your own life?

Discuss these “I WONDER” statements

- I wonder what it was like for the man to see after having been blind his whole life?
- I wonder why Jesus chose to heal this man even though he didn’t ask to be healed?
- I wonder why the religious leaders had a hard time accepting that Jesus had healed this man?

Apply

- Think of a season of your life that was difficult through no fault of your own. You may be in one currently. Is there something about that season God used (or could use) to shape your faith. If so, what?
- In which of these aspects of your faith journey would you like your “eyes opened” more? Explain. Hope • Joy • Love • Forgiveness • Contentment • Peace • Understanding • Patience
- Can you give an example of when you saw God demonstrate his power in the midst of someone’s suffering?
- Do you know someone who has walked away from the church or their faith because God failed to fit into their “God Box”? Explain.
- Is there an experience or situation that you have encountered where you have struggled with your faith because of your “God Box”?
- Are there people you have failed to treat with love and dignity because they didn’t fit into your “God Box”?
- Identify an area of life where you are currently struggling to trust God because of your “God Box”.