

## Discussion & Reflection Questions

John 9:1-41 | Ephesians 5:8-14

### 1. Observing the Story

1. What details stand out to you in the story of the man born blind in John 9?
2. Why do you think the disciples assumed someone must have sinned to cause the man's blindness?
3. What do you notice about how the different groups respond to the miracle (neighbors, parents, Pharisees)?
4. As the chapter unfolds, how does the healed man's understanding of Jesus grow?

### 2. Understanding the Message of the Passage

5. Jesus rejects the idea that suffering must always be traced back to someone's personal sin. What does this reveal about how Jesus views suffering and blame?
6. Why might John include so much detail about the investigation and interrogation that follows the miracle?
7. In Ephesians 5, Paul says, "You were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord." What do you think Paul means by describing this change as an identity shift rather than just a behavioral change?
8. Billy pointed out that the man who began the story blind ended up seeing most clearly, while the religious leaders became more resistant. Why do you think that reversal happens?

### 3. Reflecting on Spiritual Vision

9. Life can feel like driving down a familiar road until something suddenly makes you realize you might not see things as clearly as you thought. Have you ever experienced a moment like that in your life or faith?
10. Billy said that blindness doesn't always look like ignorance, it can also look like confidence or certainty. Why do you think certainty can sometimes make it harder to recognize what God is doing?
11. The man's understanding of Jesus grows gradually throughout the story. What does this teach us about how faith and understanding often develop?

## 4. Examining Possible Blind Spots

12. One form of blindness is “**certainty without humility.**” What might humility look like in the way we hold our beliefs and convictions?
13. Billy also talked about **cultural blind spots**, reminding us that every generation has assumptions it struggles to see. Why do you think it’s so difficult for people to recognize the blind spots of their own culture?
14. Which of the cultural assumptions mentioned stood out to you the most (comfort, politics, busyness, success, or overconfidence in our own perspective)? Why?
15. Sometimes religious communities can become so focused on protecting traditions or systems that they struggle to recognize when God is doing something new. Why do you think that can happen?

## 5. Responding to the Invitation of the Passage

16. Jesus never shames blind people, he heals them, but he confronts those who insist they already see clearly. What do you think that reveals about Jesus’ heart?
17. What might it look like in everyday life to pray, “Lord, maybe there are things I cannot see yet”?
18. The healed man ends the story by worshiping Jesus. Why do you think recognizing who Jesus truly is leads naturally to worship?
19. Where in your life right now might Jesus be inviting you to see something more clearly?

## Closing Reflection

John 9 shows two very different responses to Jesus:

- A man who admits what he does not know and grows in faith.
- Religious leaders who insist they already understand and become more resistant.

Which response do you find yourself relating to more right now, and why?