

### Questions for reflection, application, and discussion

1. In his message Pastor Mike argued that Jesus miracles always teach a spiritual truth that is illustrated by the physical miracle. He argued that John 9 and the story of the healing of the blind man is really teaching us about our need for Jesus' healing of our spiritual blindness.
  - a What is spiritual blindness?
  - b How do we know if we are blind spiritually?
2. In John 9:39 Jesus said, *"For judgment I came into this world, that those who do not see may see, and those who see may become blind."* What does he mean by this?
  - a In John 3:17 Jesus said, *"For God did not send his son into the world to condemn the world,"* but here he says *"For judgement I came into this world."* Are these verses in conflict? What is the judgement that Jesus is talking about here?
  - b Jesus says that he came *"that those who do not see may see."* What does he mean? How does he give sight to the blind?
  - c He also says that he came so that *"those who see may become blind."* What does he mean? How does he make those who see blind?
3. When Jesus inferred that the religious leaders were blind in verse 39, they were offended by his statement.
  - a Both then and now, to those who are spiritually blind think they are spiritually blind? Explain your answer.
  - b If not, and if part of the nature of spiritual blindness is an inability to see our blindness, how can we know that we ourselves aren't spiritually blind?
4. After the amazing miracle of the healing of the blind man, the religious leaders responded not with joy for the man at his healing, but with anger at Jesus for the act of the healing. They thought the most significant thing that happened wasn't the giving of sight to the blind man, but the offense of Jesus making mud to heal him.
  - a Try to put yourself into the setting of this event. Why do you think that the religious leaders responded so negatively to such a wonderful event?
  - b Why do you think they responded so negatively to the man, ultimately kicking him out of the synagogue, and the religious community of the Jews?
  - c The blindness of the religious leaders was demonstrated by their arguments against and ultimate rejection of the man who had been healed by Jesus. How do people in the cultural elite of our day demonstrate that same spirit of blind opposition to Christ and his followers today?
5. After he had been healed, the man who had been blind was dragged before the religious leaders who then attacked him and his story. Standing before the educated and powerful elites of that day, he responded to their attacks by saying, *"Whether he is a sinner I do not know. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see."*
  - a What made his personal testimony so impactful and powerful?
  - b Few if any of us have the story of being miraculously healed from an incurable physical ailment, but do you have a testimony where you can say, "I was blind but now I see?" Why is your testimony powerful?