



FOR THE WHOLE **WORLD**

Small Group Guide: For the Whole World - Week 2

Icebreaker Question:

What's one thing you believed about God as a child that you've since learned differently about Him?

This week we explored John 9 and discovered three key truths about God through Jesus:

1. God sometimes chooses to display His power through our pain
2. God extends mercy beyond theology
3. God takes personal interest in individual people

The story of the blind man shows us that Jesus didn't just come to explain God—He came to BE the explanation of God.

Discussion Questions

Read John 9:1-3

1. The disciples assumed the blind man's condition was punishment for sin. When have you or someone you know struggled with the idea that suffering is God's punishment?
2. Jesus said the man's blindness happened "so that the works of God might be displayed in him." How does shifting from "punishment" to "purpose" change how we view our difficulties?
3. Personal Reflection: Can you think of a time when God displayed His power through your pain? What did you learn about Him in that season?



**FOR THE WHOLE
WORLD**

4. The sermon mentioned that "stories of big faith grow our faith." Who in your life (or in this church) has demonstrated faith through difficulty in a way that challenged you?
-

Read John 9:13-34

5. The Pharisees were more concerned about their religious rules (Sabbath-keeping) than celebrating a miracle. When have you seen religious systems or traditions get in the way of experiencing God's mercy?
 6. The sermon stated: "If your view of God allows you to withdraw mercy, then your view of God is wrong." How does this challenge you personally?
 7. Honest Conversation: Is there anyone—or any group of people—that you've mentally placed outside the bounds of God's mercy? How does Jesus' example in this story speak to that?
 8. What would it look like for Christians to be known for having "no limits to their mercy"? What practical steps could you take this week to extend mercy like Jesus did?
-

Read John 9:35-38

9. Jesus personally sought out the blind man after he was thrown out of the synagogue. What does this tell us about God's heart for individuals?
10. The blind man had "terrible theology" but said, "One thing I do know: I was blind but now I see." Why is personal experience with Jesus sometimes more powerful than having all the right answers?



**FOR THE WHOLE
WORLD**

11. Personal Application: Do you truly believe that God takes a personal interest in you—in your specific circumstances, struggles, and joys? What makes this easy or difficult to believe?

Practical Application

This Week's Homework:

Read one of the four Gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, or John) and ask yourself: *"What can I learn about the Father through the Son?"*

Additional Challenges:

- 1. Practice Mercy: Identify one person this week who is difficult for you to show mercy to. Pray for them daily and look for one practical way to extend kindness.**
- 2. Share Your Story: Like the blind man who said "I was blind but now I see," share your personal testimony with someone this week—even if it's just one thing you know Jesus has done for you.**
- 3. Find Purpose in Pain: If you're currently going through a difficult season, ask God, "How do You want to display Your power through this?" Journal what comes to mind.**