



### Can You See Him? Week 3

- How do you typically handle disappointments in your life? Do you tend to let them get the best of you or have you learned to handle them better?

*As (Jesus) 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 work of God might be displayed in his life.*

**John 9:1-3 (NIV)**

- You don't have to understand everything to believe in something. Though some things are unexplainable, other things are undeniable. What are some undeniable attributes of God you have experienced first hand?
- Is it difficult for you to talk about your disappointments with others? Why or why not? Is it difficult for you to talk about your disappointments with God? Why or why not?

*...(Jesus) spit on the ground, made some mud with the saliva, and put it on the man's eyes. "Go," he told him, "wash in the Pool of Siloam" (this word means Sent). So the man went and washed, and came home seeing.*

**John 9:6b-7 (NIV)**

- Describe a time when you were "spiritually blind" and God opened your eyes to the truth. What did you learn from the experience?

*His neighbors and those who had formerly seen him begging asked, "Isn't this the same man who used to sit and beg?" Some claimed that he was. Others said, "No, he only looks like him." But he himself insisted, "I am the man." "How then were your eyes opened?" they demanded.*

**John 9:8-10 (NIV)**

- Has there been a time when you experienced God's healing in your life? If so, describe it. Were the people around you aware of your healing? Why or why not?

*They brought to the Pharisees the man who had been blind. Now the day on which Jesus had made the mud and opened the man's eyes was a Sabbath. Therefore the Pharisees also asked him how he had received his sight. "He put mud on my eyes," the man replied, "and I washed, and now I see." Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not keep the Sabbath."*

**John 9:13-16 (NIV)**

- Sometimes our view of God can be very limited. Have you ever seen God work through someone or something where you didn't think He would? If so, describe your experience. How did that experience affect your view of God?

*Jesus heard that they had thrown him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" "Who is he, sir?" the man asked. "Tell me so that I may believe in him." Jesus said, "You have now seen him; in fact, he is the one speaking with you." Then the man said, "Lord, I believe," and he worshiped him.*

**John 9:35-38 (NIV)**

*"For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways," declares the Lord. "As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.*

**Isaiah 55:8-9 (NIV)**

- According to Isaiah 55:8-9, we cannot understand everything God does. Has God ever asked you to do something where the purpose wasn't clear to you? If so, what was it? Did you do what He asked? Why or why not? Would you be ok with never knowing His purpose? Why or why not?

**Final thought:** Pray with your group. Talk with God, openly and honestly, about any disappointments in your life right now. Ask Him for wisdom and the insight to see His purposes. Ask Him for the grace and peace to accept His purposes that are beyond your understanding.



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#### For Further Study

To use this resource, simply select one or two questions from each category below that you think will help your group discussion. You can also use these questions and scriptures in your own personal devotions during the week.

#### Open

- Describe a time when you doubted a story even though it was from a reliable source.

#### Explore

#### Read John 20:24-31

- What had the other disciples told Thomas? (20:24)
- What did Thomas say he needed in order to believe that Jesus was raised from the dead? (20:25)
- How did Jesus restore Thomas's faith? (20:26)
- What did Jesus say to Thomas? (20:27)
- What did Thomas say in response to Jesus' words? (20:28)

- What did Jesus say about seeing and believing? (20:29)
- What results from believing that Jesus is the Son of God? (20:31)

#### Reflect

- When have you had doubts about your faith in Christ?
- What are some ways we can deal with our doubts about God?
- Why is it difficult at times to believe in Christ?
- What are some of the major areas of your life where you could trust Christ more?

#### Apply

- What doubts concerning your relationship with Christ are you currently struggling with?
- What are some ways those around you can help you process the doubts and questions you are having?
- How can you help them in the same way?