1. Read Romans 3:23-24. What is man's spiritual predicament? What is God's gracious solution?

What makes some people blind to God's free gift according to Romans 1:18-21?

Who is behind the blindness that exists in our world? Read 2 Corinthians 4:4.

2. Jesus entered our world to remove our blindness. Record all He said about Himself in John 8:12.

Now, in one sentence, record how He brought you from darkness to light.

3. In John chapter 8, Jesus is having a lengthy discourse with the Jews following the Feast of Tabernacles in Jerusalem's temple area. A major feature of this feast was the lighting of giant lamps. Jesus' proclamation that He was the light of the world was timely, but also irritating to the Jews who unknowingly preferred the darkness. Read John 8:12-20. What are the facts that Jesus used to prove His testimony is true?

vv. 14-15

v. 16

vv. 17-18

Prophecies of the Old Testament also verified Christ as the Light of the world. What do we learn from Isaiah 49:6 about the purposes of Christ in regard to Him being light?

4.	Read John 8:21-24 and list the contrasts between Jesus and the unbelieving Jews.
	What is the reason for anyone to die in their sins according to verse 24? Also read Romans 10:9-11.
5.	Read John 8:25-30 and list all you learn about the Father's relationship with His Son.
	What was the result of Jesus' testimony of His relationship with His Father?
6.	Continue this discourse by reading John 8:31-36. Jesus explains true discipleship in this passage. Though some had come to believe in Jesus' words, they lacked true commitment. What actions in verse 31 describe a growing disciple?
	Since the Jews had Abraham as the father of their faith, they saw themselves as free men. In reality, why were they enslaved?
	How would you define the word "free" from these passages?
7.	Read John 8:37-47. Jesus told the Jews who were listening to Him that the devil was their father. Summarize the reasons Jesus gave to support His claim.
8.	The Jews did not appreciate Jesus' accusations. Read John 8:48-59 along with John 1:11. The Jews appeared angriest when Jesus claimed existence before Abraham. Read Exodus 3:13-14 and explain why.

9.	Even though we love Jesus, sometimes we have our own questions about the faith. Please share how you approach these kinds of questions in a way that strengthens your faith.
	What can we learn from Psalm 32:8, Psalm 119:105 and Proverbs 3:5-6 when seeking the answers?
10.	Read the incredible story of a man who was blind until he met Jesus in John 9:1-41. What is your favorite part of the story? Why?
11.	Read John 9:1-7. How does Jesus describe Himself in these verses and how does He prove it?
12.	We find the reaction of the neighbors, Pharisees and parents in verses 8-23. What are the different reasons these people found it hard to rejoice over this miracle?
13.	The Jews called the man born blind back for another interview. Read about it in verses 24-34. What wonderful truths does this enlightened beggar share with his interrogators?
14.	Later, Jesus searched for the healed beggar. Read verses 35-41. Another healing took place in these verses. What was it and what part did the beggar play in it?
	Explain why the Pharisees remained in their blindness.
15.	Write out a personal prayer request in one or two sentences to share with your small group.

# **BLIND NO MORE**

John 8:12-9:41

# The Claim of Christ-"I am the Light of the World."

8:12-59

#### A true testimony-

When Jesus called Himself the Light of the World, He gave a true testimony of His deity. As the spiritual light of the world, Jesus both exposes sin and gives sight. Jesus' testimony was true because He knew His destiny, and He and His Father bore witness.

### A dire warning-

Just as Jesus' time on earth was short, so was the opportunity for the Jews to trust in Him.

### An explanation-

If the Jews rejected Jesus as the revelation of God, they would miss their hope for salvation.

### A promise-

One who abides in God's Word knows the truth and is freed from the bondage of sin.

#### A severe list-

The Light of the World exposed the spiritual realities of the Jews:

They were slaves to sin. Their father was the devil. They did not know God.

### An astounding announcement-

Jesus, because of His equality with God, existed from all eternity.

# The Evidence of Christ's Claim- Healing a Man Born Blind

9:1-41

# Physical healing

Jesus explained that God could display His glory in the midst of seeming tragedy. Jesus gave the blind man opportunity to grow his faith, and he returned to Jesus with sight.

# Spiritual healing

Jesus continued the man's healing by inviting him to believe in the identity of his Healer. He grew in his understanding of Jesus- first as a man, then a prophet, then the Son of Man. The Pharisees were guilty of trying to dim the Light of the World, and so remained blind.

Abide in	Light of the World to be light in the world.
	Recognize your
	Open your eyes to His
	Him to increase your faith.
	about others' blindness.
	Search for the

KEY: the, a, blindness, brightness, Obey, Care, searchers

JESUS the WORD - John 8:12 - 9:41 March 3-4, 2021

ROMANS 5:15 But the free gift is not like the trespass. For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.

ROMANS 3:23-24 [F]or all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified by his grace as a gift, through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus.

ISAIAH 9:2 The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shone.

1 JOHN 1:5 This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all.

PSALM 36:9 For with you is the fountain of life; in your light do we see light.

JOHN 10:10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

EPHESIANS 3:20 Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us.

JOHN 3:17 For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

COLOSSIANS 1:15a He is the image of the invisible God.

ACTS 2:22-24, 36-37, 41 "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested to you by God with mighty works and wonders and signs that God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves know—this Jesus, delivered up according to the definite plan and foreknowledge of God, you crucified and killed by the hands of lawless men. God raised him up, loosing the pangs of death, because it was not possible for him to be held by it. . . . Let all the house of Israel therefore know for certain that God has made him both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you crucified." Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" . . . So those who received his word were baptized, and there were added that day about three thousand souls.

1 PETER 2:9 But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.