

# ENCOUNTERING JESUS!

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### **The Blind Encounter Jesus!** (John 9)

In Jesus; healing and life are but a breath away; will we believe and accept it?  
John 1:4-5 NIV'84

St. Augustine, "It is of no advantage to be near the light if the eyes are closed."  
John 8:12 NIV'84 MEMORY VERSE  
John 20:31 NIV'84

One way or the other, once we encounter Jesus, we can't stay the same; we don't stay the same; nor do others!

Physical Blindness and Spiritual Blindness!  
John 9:1-3 NIV'84

**God's PURPOSE is clearly stated and displayed in our life for others to see!**

**God's ultimate goal: Stating our BELIEF in Jesus, we see and experience transformational life change!**  
Romans 8:28 NIV'84  
John 9:5 NIV'84

**Jesus will ILLUMINATE and transform our life's darkness if we actively believe!**  
John 9:6-7 NIV'84

**Results of our faithful OBEDIENCE will be experienced!**  
John 14:21 NIV'84  
John 9:8-9 NIV'84

**Sometimes our preconceived notions and obstinate hearts BLIND us!**  
John 9:10-17 NIV'84

**Who's really blind?**  
John 9:18-19 NIV'84

**At times, in FEAR, we're passive as others doubt and discredit!**  
John 9:20-23 NIV'84  
Jesus is into relationships; He's into changing lives!  
John 9:24-34 NIV'84

**Sometimes PRIDE and arrogance blinds us from the truth!**  
James 4:6b NIV'84  
Micah 6:8 NIV

**When, in BELIEF, we're persecuted and stand alone, Jesus seeks us out; we stand not alone!**  
John 9:35-38 NIV'84

Dr. Oliver Sacks, "One must die as a blind person to be born again as a seeing person."

'So What?' Challenge: Reflect–Respond–Reach Out–Retell!  
John 3:16-17, 19-21 NIV

Stating our BELIEF in Jesus, we see and experience transformational life change!

John 8:12 NIV'84 MEMORY VERSE  
I believe; do you?

# THE 'SO WHAT' CHALLENGE

## **THIS WEEK'S MEMORY VERSE:**

"When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."  
John 8:12 NIV

## **REFLECT**

Questions to reflect on in your personal quiet time, with the family and/or in your Life Group.

- 1) What one point personally stood out from the message and why?
- 2) Recall the opening story. Have we ever been blind to what's really going on around us?
- 3) Read John 3:16; 8:12; 9:5; 20:31. What is the common theme and purpose restated in one word? Why?
- 4) What's the difference in being physically and spiritually blind? Have we ever been spiritually blind? Share.
- 5) How can God display His purpose and use our life's 'blindness' to share of His wonderful Light?
- 6) What one point in the text personally stood out and why? What lesson did we learn?

## **RESPOND**

What personal response and/or possible life change do you have to what you have heard?

## **REACH OUT**

In regards to what has been revealed to you, what intentional action can you take this week to impact someone else for Christ?

## **RETELL**

Share how God has worked in you and through you with someone else – in personal conversation, in your Life Group or at [c3ocala.com/retell](http://c3ocala.com/retell).