

Growth Group Discussion Guide
October 17-18, 2026
John 9 / Seeing Is Believing—or Is It?

Big Idea: Jesus opens the eyes of those who recognize their need and trust Him, while pride can leave people spiritually blind even when the evidence is right in front of them.

Opening Question

The sermon contrasted “the blind who see” with “those who see but are blind.”

- Why can it be difficult to recognize our own blind spots, especially in spiritual matters?

Notes: _____

Read John 9:1-5

Jesus notices a man blind from birth. While the disciples ask who caused his suffering, Jesus redirects them toward what God can display through his life.

- What do the disciples’ question and Jesus’ response reveal about the way we often view suffering?
- How does it change our perspective to ask, “What might God do here?” rather than only, “Who is to blame?”

Next Step: Bring one difficult or unanswered situation to God this week. Ask Him to display His work and glory through it, even if you do not yet understand it.

Notes: _____

Read John 9:6-12

The man obeys Jesus, washes in the pool of Siloam, and comes back seeing. He cannot yet explain everything about Jesus, but he can clearly tell what Jesus did for him.

- Why do people sometimes reject the way God works because it seems offensive, unexpected, or too simple?
- What part of your own story could you share by saying, “This is what Jesus did for me”?

Next Step: Write a two- or three-sentence testimony describing one specific way Jesus has changed your life. Be ready to share it naturally when God gives you an opportunity.

Notes: _____

Read John 9:13-25

The Pharisees focus on their traditions and repeatedly question the miracle. The man’s parents respond in fear, but the man gives a simple and powerful testimony: “I was blind, and now I see.”

- How did the Pharisees’ rules, assumptions, and desire for control keep them from seeing what God had done?
- What can we learn from the man’s response when we feel unprepared for a theological argument?

Next Step: Ask God to expose any pride, fear, or fixed assumption that may be keeping you from seeing and responding to His work.

Notes: _____

Read John 9:26-34

Under continued pressure, the man grows bolder. His understanding progresses from “the man called Jesus,” to prophet, to a man from God. The leaders see the evidence but refuse to believe.

- What do you notice about the growth of the man’s faith and courage throughout the chapter?
- Why is a changed life often more powerful than an argument?

Next Step: Name one area where Jesus is inviting you to trust Him more fully. Take one concrete step of obedience this week.

Notes: _____

“On Mission” Takeaway

- Who in your life may be spiritually searching, skeptical, or unable to see clearly who Jesus is?
- How could your personal story help that person take one step toward Jesus?

Next Step: Pray daily for one person who does not know Jesus. Look for an opportunity to listen to their story, share briefly what Jesus has done for you, or invite them to church or your growth group.

Notes: _____

Final Reflection

What is one thing God is teaching you through this passage?

What is one action step you will take this week?

Prayer Focus

Pray that God would:

- Open our eyes to see Jesus clearly and respond to Him in faith.
- Give us humility in suffering and confidence in His purposes.
- Expose pride, fear, and assumptions that create spiritual blindness.
- Give us courage to tell others simply and clearly what Jesus has done for us.
- Use our lives to point spiritually blind people to the Light of the world.