

Week Two | Eyes to See Joy | 04.02-03.2022

Grow Deep Conversation Questions: Use these questions to help you process the message in your personal time of study or with your group. Time suggestions are based on a 90-minute group gathering.

Series Recap: With so much happening in our world right now that can pull our focus to the negative, to the painful, and to the problems we need to remember that there is still hope. Throughout all the lowest points of history, there has been a beautiful reminder from God of His love for us and His plan for humanity. Jesus' mission started before we were even alive and continues to this moment. When we see the masterpiece of His work and salvation for us we get to share that same hope with others this Easter season.

≫Opening (3 minutes)

- Introductions This is especially important if this is your first meeting and if there are new members.
- Housekeeping Clarify expectations:
 - Remind your group that this is a confidential meeting.
 - Remember, there may be many thoughts and views. Please remain kind and respectful during conversations.
- Pray Open your time together in prayer.

> Introduction (12 minutes)

- Ice-Breaker: What is a small thing that brings you great joy?
- Digging Deeper: We are often-results focused. How does celebrating small changes encourage us to be joyful in big objectives?
- >> Observation | Read John 9:1-34

(12 minutes)

- What are your initial reactions to this passage? What do you find challenging? Are you encouraged by any of these verses? Why?
- >> Key Principle | Celebrating change can bring joy to what hasn't yet.

(12 minutes)

- Jesus was mission-focused. How does focusing on our mission put individual tasks into a joyful perspective?
- **Joy Breaks Through** | Reread John 9:1-7; I Peter 1:8-9

(12 minutes)

- How is joy multiplied when compared to past trials or suffering?
- What do these passages teach us about trusting before seeing?
- **Joy Defies Judgment** | Reread John 9:13-17; Genesis 2:3; Exodus 20:8-11

(12 minutes)

- How does healing on the Sabbath point to blessing and holiness?
- Jesus' actions give us insight into His perspective on work versus mission. How so?
- **Joy Invites Inquiry** Read John 9:24-34; Psalm 27:4; Ephesians 3:20-21

(12 minutes)

- What assumptions are made about Jesus? How do assumptions extinguish inquiry?
- Why would the healed man's definition of gazing and dwelling with God be different from the Pharisees?

>> Next Steps and Prayer |

(15 minutes)

- How does the joy you experience in Jesus challenge the assumptions that others have of you or the life you choose to live following Him?
- Close by praying for one another to invite conversations rather than condemnations with others as they see your pursuits of Jesus.

