



## **DIGGING DEEPER**

*The Man Formerly Known as Blind*

How did things get worse for the blind man before they got better?

What ultimately happened to the blind man as a result of his healing?

Take another crack at this question: What works of God were revealed in the blind man's life?

## **CROSS-CHECKING**



*The Cure for Darkness: Light*

Look at the blind spots you wrote on your slip of paper. Now picture yourself as the blind man at the beginning of John 9. In fact, take a minute to reread John 9:1-7. Visualize Jesus passing you by...stopping for a moment...then healing your blindness.

Did you know that Jesus still heals "blind spots" today? As you read each passage below, notice what it says about how God brings "light" into "darkness." After each passage, write a short prayer to him about your own "blind spot." It can be a confession, a request, or a prayer of thanksgiving. I won't force you to share with the group, so feel free to answer honestly.

2 Corinthians 4:5-18 (It's a big chunk, but it's worth it!)

Ephesians 5:8-14

1 Thessalonians 5:5-8

Now look at the slip of paper you used to compare your spiritual life with the life of the blind man. In what category did you put yourself? Are you—

- a. still blind from birth—your eyes haven't been opened to Jesus?
- b. eyes half shut (aware of Jesus but haven't accepted him yet)?
- c. eyes wide open (believing in and worshiping him as the Son of God)?

Take a second to read John 9:35-38 from your Bible. Then picture the blind man just after he was cast out of the synagogue (thrown out of church). Since the synagogue was the hub of social and religious activity, this was a pretty lonely moment for a Jewish guy. Put yourself in his shoes. Think about being cut off from things such as restaurants, MySpace, school friends, etc. Now imagine the moment when Jesus finds you—and for the first time, you lay eyes on the one who healed you!

Now do what the blind man did. Worship Jesus! Write out a prayer below that reflects your heart. What in your life is similar to the life of the blind man in John 9? How has Jesus healed you?