

BIG IDEA

What you can't see is keeping you from moving forward in life.

KEY VERSE: "You must acknowledge your own blind spots and deal with them before you will be able to deal with the blind spot of your friend." (Luke 6:42)

SUMMARY

This is a season of pioneering. We are on a journey of taking ground out there, but God is also inviting us to take ground in our hearts. Sometimes that is the hardest ground to take because we don't even know we need to take it. God wants to set us free from the blind spots that are keeping us from the fullness of life that He has in store for us.

BLIND SPOTS

What is easy to see in others is really hard to see in ourselves. A blind spot is *any area of brokenness that is obvious to others but hidden to ourselves*. When we have a blind spot, we lose vision for that entire area of life. It becomes impossible to live healthily in the area of our blind spot. A blind spot keeps us from seeing what is and what can be; it steals our present and hides our future. Blind spots hurt us and others around us. Blind spots cause us to have a *misperception of life*, which leads us to make *false conclusions*, and results in *dysfunctional actions*. It's God's grace in our lives that we don't walk by sight because our perception of life is not always true (2 Corinthians 5:7). Faith allows God's truth to determine what we see, instead of allowing what we see to become truth (Hebrews 11:1).

DISCOVERING OUR BLIND SPOTS

1. **Admit you have blind spots.** We all have blind spots (Matthew 7:3-5). If we think we don't have blind spot then we have pride (Proverbs 12:15). We can tell if we are rooted in pride if we are more concerned with the speck in someone else's eye instead of the log in our own. Those who don't believe in Jesus are *blind* and those who do believe have blind spots (2 Corinthians 4:4). We either think of ourselves as amazing, with no blind spots, or we are full of shame and think we have no value (Romans 12:3). God is inviting us to believe we are beloved sons or daughters on a journey of freedom with Jesus.

Share a blind spot that has kindly been pointed out to you. How did you respond? Do you find yourself focusing more on others' blind spots or your own?

2. **Invite the Holy Spirit to start exposing your blind spots.** The Holy Spirit is our best friend. He's our comforter, counselor, and guide. The Holy Spirit comes to convict us of sin (blind spots) where we are missing the mark (John 16:8). We miss the mark when we can't see. The Holy Spirit uses gentleness and grace to point out blind spots through illumination and revelation. He gives us vision for our life and all vision comes from revelation. It's the combination of the Holy Spirit and the Word of God (Psalm 119:105).

Share a time in your life when the Holy Spirit revealed something to you. How did this change your perspective of who you are, who God is, and what you were created to do?

3. **Ask healthy, godly people what your blind spots are.** We ask people who walk with Jesus, who are dealing with their own blind spots, who know the Word of God, and who walk with the Holy Spirit. We are not asking worldly, dysfunctional people. A true friend will tell you what you need to hear; an enemy will tell you what you want to hear (Proverbs 27:6). After we ask, we listen (James 1:19). We'll be tempted to get angry because it won't feel great, but their words will lead us to greater freedom. Having people speak the truth in love, we will grow to become more like Jesus (Ephesians 4:15).

Who can you ask to point out one blind spot in your life? Ask someone in your group to help hold you accountable in talking with your healthy, godly relationship this week.

FINAL THOUGHTS

Discovering our blind spots will set us free to live the abundant life we were created to live. Godly relationships are the mirror of life to help us see who we are (Acts 9:17-18). When we are free from our blind spots, we will have accurate perceptions, we will make truthful conclusions, and we will take healthy actions.

Other Scriptures (Luke 4:18, John 8:32)