



**ICE BREAKER IDEAS:**

What is something that is taking up a lot of room in your mind right now? Something that is consuming your thoughts and energy?

**GOD STORIES:**

Where did you see God this week? Has God answered any prayers recently? Have you noticed him challenging you and/or transforming you? Were there times this week where God came to mind? Share stories.

**SCRIPTURE:**

**John 8:12-20 and John 9:1-12\*** please read the **entire passage(s)** with your group.

**APPLICATION:**

1. Reference **John 8:12.**
  - a. How is Jesus the light of the world?
  - b. What kind of darkness does Jesus prevent His followers from walking in? Are those who are not following Jesus currently walking in darkness?
  - c. What must be done in order to access the light of life?
2. Reference **John 8:13-16.**
  - a. Why were the Pharisees unable to see the light of the world in Jesus?
  - b. "He *must* give witness about Himself: no one else is qualified to give witness about His nature and about His essential work" (Richard Trench). Discuss the uphill battle of Jesus proving that He is God to religious leaders who want to trap Him.
  - c. What does the small "I am" statement in verse 16 say about the nature of the relationship between Jesus and the Father?
3. Reference **John 8:17-20.**
  - a. Who are the two witnesses that Jesus provides to testify for Himself?
  - b. What was the point of the Pharisees question in verse 19, "where is your father?" To damage His reputation? To insult the mother of Jesus by assuming that her supposed adultery led to His birth? ("In the East, to question a man's paternity is definite slur on his legitimacy" - Merrill Tenney).
  - c. This was not a secret conversation, but happened in a public setting (verse 20). What does this heated exchange reveal about light in the darkness?
4. Reference **John 9:1-3**
  - a. What does Jesus teach about the nature of physical abnormalities? Does sin cause physical abnormality? If not, what is the reason that physical abnormalities exist according to John 9:1-3?
  - b. Regarding the question the disciples asked in verse 2: If the man was born blind, how could he have sinned before birth? What does this question say about the thought process of sin, life, and death during this time?
  - c. How does this miracle connect with John 8:12-20?

5. Read **John 9:4-7**.
  - a. What is the "day" in which Jesus works and when is the "night" that is coming according to verse 4?
  - b. Why does Jesus spit in the ground to heal the man?
  - c. Read **Isaiah 35:5**. What does Jesus demonstrate by healing this blind man?
6. Anthony asked a few questions during his message that you can discuss as a group:
  - a. What does it look like to live in the light with integrity in your marriage, job, and family/friend relationships?
  - b. Where do you see darkness in your life that is keeping you from the Lord?
    - i. Confess it. Thank God for Jesus who died for it. Live in freedom, walk in the light.

**PRAY TOGETHER:**

- Pray for the power and courage to walk in the light as He is in the light (1 John 1:5-7)!