

Discuss the different perspective Jesus has to simple 'cause and effect'. In what ways can you slip into simple 'cause and effect' thinking? In what ways does Jesus' perspective challenge how you view the world? In what ways does this fill out Jesus' claim that he is 'the light of the world'?

The man's parents hedged their bets. Can you sympathize with them? How might fear tempt you to not bear witness to Jesus today?

The healing of the man born blind was irrefutable and compelling but the Pharisees didn't see who Jesus was because they were blinded by misplaced orthodoxy, they claimed to be disciples of Moses who stood-up for the Sabbath (v14-16). How might people be similarly blinded to Jesus today?

The Pharisees couldn't see past their settled view of the world, but the man born blind draws the right conclusion about Jesus:

"Now that is remarkable! You don't know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. ³¹ We know that God does not listen to sinners. He listens to the godly man who does his will. ³² Nobody has ever heard of opening the eyes of a man born blind. ³³ If this man were not from God, he could do nothing."

Discuss the 'settled views of the world' you might hold that are based in culture or tradition or family values. In what ways have you experienced these fixed ideas / settled worldviews stopping you from seeing clearly the **real** Jesus?

Talk about the times the Bible has challenged your long or firmly held views that were not really biblical. Can you relate to the reaction of the Pharisees to the man born blind when he challenged their worldview?

Jesus gave sight to the man born blind. Today he still does the same for us who begin with a fixed view of the world that denies God. Jesus is the light by which we see. The Pharisees were the seeing blind – they had the great privilege of seeing the signs and knowing God's word but were still blind to their need of God's mercy and grace. Pray together with thankfulness for the light of Jesus, the great sign of his resurrection and the privilege of God's word. Pray for each other that we might have soft hearts to continue to receive God's word even as it challenges our preconceived ideas and leads us in light.