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[illegible]This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

OUR MISSION is to make more and better disciples of Jesus Christ.

Col.3:1-3 (Godly Living)

1 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. 3 For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God.

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SERMON GUIDE

I ONCE WAS BLIND

John 9:1-41

Pastor I Tim Prince

May 25, 2025

Faith Community Church | fcchudson.com

The Conversation Guide is a great tool for individuals, families, discipleship groups and Missional Communities to take a deeper, more personal dive into the content of the current sermon series. The Conversation Guide will be posted by every Friday on the 'live' page of our website and in our weekly newsletter. We encourage you to use it this week on your own, around your dinner tables, over coffee with your friends or in your faith groups!

The Conversation Guide is built on the SOAP model, which is a tool you can use when reading the Bible. SOAP helps you be intentional about paying attention to:

- S**cripture that stands out to you while you read
- O**bservations about the verse or phrases that stood out to you
- A**pplication that connect the verses to your real life and relationships
- P**rayer that invites God to participate in your life and provide power to follow him

Conversation Questions

Setting The Table: This story begins with a man who has been blind since birth. In Jesus' time, people sometimes believed that suffering was the direct result of sin—so this man was likely judged, ignored, or pitied by those around him. But Jesus not only heals the man's physical blindness - he also opens his spiritual eyes to recognize who Jesus truly is. As the story unfolds, the man's sight becomes clearer while the religious leaders, who think they can see, become more spiritually blind.

Watch how physical healing becomes a doorway to something much deeper.

Today's reading was long, but good. If you're with a group, you might consider assigning parts to be read. Choose some people with a flair for the dramatic to do the reading. Enjoy!

Read John 9:1-41

- S** What do you love most about what you just read? What verses, phrases, or words stand out to you as you read these scriptures? Is anything jumping off the page and affecting your spirit?
- O** How does Jesus respond to the man's suffering in verses 1-3, and what does this show us about how God sees brokenness and pain?
- O** What do you notice about the blind man's journey—how does his understanding of Jesus change from the beginning of the story to the end? What do you love most about Jesus in this story?
- O** What contrast does this chapter draw between physical sight and spiritual sight? Who is truly "blind" by the end of the story, and why? Does this convict, challenge or comfort you?
- A** If God had written this passage just for you, what words, phrases or ideas would he have underlined specifically for you? What did you need to hear most? Why?
- A** The religious leaders in this story had all the evidence they needed to believe but refused. Are there areas in your life where you're resisting what God might be trying to show you? Why do you resist? What's at stake for you? What helps a person stay spiritually open rather than blind?
- P** Talk to God about your application responses above. Ask him to speak to you, help you, forgive you, and provide direction that you need.