

Small Group Discussion Guide

Mark 8:22-26

“Seeing Clearly”

Based on Sunday's
Sermon 5/24/2026

Background

The placement of this miracle in Mark's narrative is no accident. Mark alone records it as the conclusion of a short series of stories woven together by the unifying theme of seeing. It happens to be the only miracle that occurred in stages—partial sight followed by a repeat application of miraculous touch, which then produced complete sight. It is also a rare instance in which the disciples brought to Jesus a person in need of healing.¹

Since the blind man's friends were likely Gentiles, as this was Gentile territory, it was quite possible they had come to put more trust in Jesus' touch than in Jesus. That had been precisely the case with the woman with the hemorrhage who thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed” (5:28). In that case Jesus honored her uninformed faith, but immediately made it clear that it was her faith which brought healing and not the touch, saying, “Daughter, your faith has healed you” (5:34).²

Discussion Questions

Getting Started

1. If you had to describe your week using a sight metaphor (foggy, bright, blurry, dazzling, dim), which one fits and why?

Observation

2. What details stand out in the way Jesus leads the blind man away from the village and interacts with him during the healing?
3. How would you describe the man's two-stage healing—what does he see first, and what does he see after Jesus touches him again?

¹ Charles R. Swindoll, *Mark*, Swindoll's Living Insights New Testament Commentary (Tyndale House Publishers, 2018), 218.

² R. Kent Hughes, *Mark: Jesus, Servant and Savior*, vol. 1, Preaching the Word (Westchester, IL: Crossway Books, 1989), 194.

4. What instructions does Jesus give the man at the end, and what location details are included?

Interpretation

5. How might this story function as a living parable for the disciples, who in the surrounding passages struggle to “see” who Jesus truly is?
6. Why might Jesus choose to heal this man gradually rather than instantly? What might this reveal about how spiritual understanding often develops?
7. What similarities or contrasts do you notice between this scene and the Servant’s mission in Isaiah 42:1–7?

Application

8. Where in your spiritual life do you feel like you’re in the “first touch” stage — aware of something, but not fully seeing it yet?
9. How might Jesus be inviting you to slow down, trust His process, and receive a “second touch” of clarity in a specific area of your life?
10. In what area of your life do you sense Jesus wanting to lead you “out of the village” — away from noise, pressure, or distraction — so He can help you see more clearly?

Prayer List: