

BIG IDEA

You are part of God's plan to remove the blind spots of others.

KEY VERSE: "First get rid of the log in your own eye; then you will see well enough to deal with the speck in your friend's eye." (**Matthew 7:5**)

SUMMARY

We have blind spots and so do those in our life. We have been called to remove the speck out of our friend's eye (**Matthew 7:5**). This is what it means to be a disciple (**Matthew 28:19**). A disciple is someone who is on a journey to bring all the areas of their life into submission and surrender to the Lordship of Jesus. They are being conformed into the image and likeness of Jesus, as are all followers of Jesus.

HOW TO DEAL WITH THEIR BLIND SPOTS

1. Deal with your blind spots. In the kingdom of God order matters. Jesus calls us to deal with our own blind spots before we help someone else (**Luke 6:42**). The blind can't lead the blind (**Luke 6:39**). The more clearly we see Jesus the more clearly we see everything else. Humility enables us to receive God's grace for awareness of our own blind spots and enables us to release God's grace to help others with their blind spots.

How are you dealing with your own blind spots?

2. Don't try to fix them, help try to free them. Fixing them is about what's good for us, freeing them is about what's good for them. We try to fix them because we are frustrated, but we try to free them because we are heartbroken they're living an inferior life to what God has for them. Our motive matters (**1 Corinthians 10:24**). Jesus didn't come to fix the frustrating, He came to free the captives. We are not called to the ministry of condemnation, we're called to the ministry of grace.

If you are trying to fix those you love, how does this change your perspective and motive?

3. Pray for them more than you preach at them. We are all really good preachers but we need to be really good prayers. For every one thing we want to say to those in our life about their blind spot, we should be praying for them ten times over in that area (**Mark 11:24**). In prayer, we get God's view of them and see them from His perspective.

Are you praying for the blind spots of others? What is a blind spot in someone else you can pray for this week?

4. Walk with the Holy Spirit and with them. Seek the Holy Spirit to help identify blind spots in others. He will guide you and give you the words (Galatians 5:25). Godly relationships are God's pathway to freedom; we can only help remove blind spots of others when we are in relationship with them.

How has the Holy Spirit led you to ask someone to identify your blind spot or to respond to someone who has asked you to help them with their blind spot?

5. Speak Life. If we want the log to come out, we must speak life (**Ephesians 4:29**). If there is no love, then don't speak out the truth. If there is no truth, then we have to ask ourselves if there is really love. We are called to believe the best and hold each other to our best—this is love. We have to see them as beloved sons/daughters on a journey and see who they can be in the midst of how they are behaving. We can also ask questions instead of making declarations.

With your group, practice using the encouragement sandwich: positive encouragement + truth + positive encouragement.

Other Scriptures (John 8:32, Matthew 4:19, Matthew 13:14-16, Galatians 6:1, Ephesians 4:32, Matthew 9:36, Matthew 11:29, Luke 5:16, 1 Peter 4:8, Philippians 1:6, Ephesians 4:15, Proverbs 29:20, Romans 4:17, Proverbs 18:21, Matthew 7:6, Mark 8:25, Matthew 5:14, Luke 4:18, Proverbs 16:18)