

# 5 REASONS WHY

## 5. Supernatural Encounters

Start off with feedback from Sunday's message. What did those that were there - or those that have caught up online - take away from it? What encouraged them, what informed them and what challenged them?

In particular - did anyone there experience a touch from the Holy Spirit?

Read John 9

*He replied, 'Whether he is a sinner or not, I don't know. One thing I do know. I was blind but now I see!'*

- Does the idea of miracles as 'Previews' work for you? Why is it that they aren't 'normals' - why don't they happen all the time?
- If miracles are, by definition, a little unusual, is it right for us to pray for healing every time someone is sick?
- Seeing the man born blind the disciples ask, 'Whose fault is it?' Do you tend to think of suffering as ultimately God's fault, or as an opportunity for us to co-operate with Jesus to bring glory to God in a broken world? Be honest.
- What's the most powerful miracle or supernatural encounter that you've experienced? What's the most recent?
- In what ways can you identify with the man born blind as he tries to defend himself and sincerely tell his story with a hostile audience?
- v24. *'We know this man is a sinner.'* What Preconceptions have you come up against with friends, in the workplace etc? How can we combat those preconceptions?
- v34. *'You were steeped in sin at birth; how dare you lecture us!' And they threw him out.* Have you ever experienced abuse, ridicule or rejection as a result of your faith in Jesus?
- v39. *Jesus said, 'For judgment I have come into this world, so that the blind will see and those who see will become blind.'* What on earth does this mean? How can we work with Jesus to help blind people see?

Big Idea: 'Miracles are spoiler-filled trailers for what Jesus has in store, glimpses of the future glory of God's Kingdom.'

Is anyone in the group sick or struggling with a health issue - mental or physical? Take time to pray for one another. Ask the Holy Spirit to empower you to pray for the sick and give space to hearing God's voice for one another.

Pray for friends that you know that are 'spiritually blind' and unable to see Jesus for who he is. Pray that God would give them spiritual sight. Pray that we would be able to collaborate with Jesus to do God's work and bring His Kingdom.