



Seeing People as Jesus Sees People

Multi-Ethnic Ministry Series: Video 1 - Dialogue 1

Group Facilitator:	Take a moment to outline what the discussion will be, and open your time together with prayer.
Scripture Reading:	Matthew 9:35-38
Opening Exercise:	<p>View Video 1 – “Opening Our Eyes”</p> <p>Give participants a moment of silence after viewing the video to reflect on what phrase or idea left the greatest impression on them. Have participants write down the phrase or idea so they don’t forget!</p> <p>Ask, “What spoke to you and why?”</p>
Opening Questions:	<p>When you hear the word “missions” what boundaries come to mind?</p> <p>How does “missions” also relate to the people in your local community?</p>
Your Community:	<p>Think about your neighborhood, town or city. Can you name five people groups living where you live? “People groups” is a very broad term that can encompass a variety of definitions. Examples would be: ethnic groups – African-American, Anglo-American, Asian-American, Mexican-American; religious groups – Christians, Hindus, Mormons, Muslims; socio-economic groups – homeless, shift workers, migrant workers; stage of life groups – students, international students, retirees, young families. Given this broader definition, identify the different groups in your community.</p> <p>Looking at this list, do you count any of the people “not like you” as friends?</p> <p>What prevents you from crossing boundaries associated with different ethnic, socio-economic, religious and stage of life groups?</p>
Scripture Focus:	<p>Mark 8:22-26</p> <p>What do you notice in this passage about the transformation that takes place?</p> <p>How would you notice other cultures if you were physically blind?</p> <p>What are the stereotypes or personal traits commonly assigned to different people groups? How do these over-generalizations make us “blind”?</p> <p>What would happen if you renounced your commitment to these stereotypes and saw people as Jesus does?</p> <p>What do you “see” that hinders or compels you to reach out to those around you who are from another people group?</p>
Personal Response:	How can you be a positive voice for change? How can our church be a positive voice for change in our community?
Group Facilitator:	Have participants close their time together with prayer.
