

## ***Can You See It?***

### ***Can You See It? (February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021)***

#### **PREPARATION**

- Familiarize yourself with this Study Guide.
- You can watch the sermon online [HERE](#). **Then make sure to watch our [Special Series Video!](#)**
- Spend some time in prayer before your group gathers.
- You **always** have the option to use some or all the questions and/or prepare your own questions.
- Review the learning objective to focus the conversation, read the primary scriptures as a group, summarize the main points, ask the questions, and use supporting texts to enhance the concepts.

#### **DISCUSSION**

##### **Opening Prayer:** (1-2 minutes)

*In light of what God is saying through this week's message, here's a suggestion of how your group can invite God into your time together.*

Thank the Father for loving us so much that He came to us in the person of Jesus to offer Himself as a sacrifice on our behalf while we were still sinners! Pray that as we navigate the chaotic waters of our cultural moment that we would humbly listen and obey the promptings of the Holy Spirit as we seek to love one another just as Jesus loved us by dying for us on the cross. Finally, pray that the Holy Spirit would open the eyes of our heart to begin to see Jesus for who he truly is!

##### **Discussion:** (45-60 minutes)

##### **What's Going on This Week**

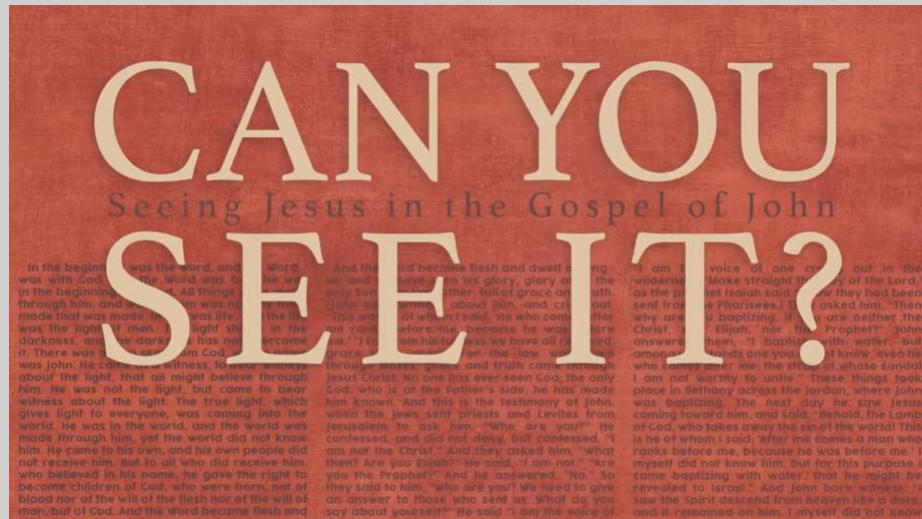
This Sunday, Pastor Danny led us into our first week of our brand-new series titled *Can You See It?* Pastor Danny brought our attention to *John 3:1-17* and the story of Nicodemus to ask this question: what do we do when we can't see Jesus clearly? John's gospel account challenges us to reflect on our own vision – whether or not we are in the dark – and to recognize that is the Spirit that gives us true vision! Pastor Danny challenges those who do not see Jesus to accept the reality of your spiritual blindness and respond to the gospel message in faith.

**“The remedy to spiritual blindness is fixing our eyes on the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.” – Pastor Danny Strange**

## Suggested Questions

**Check-In: Icebreaker** – What was the most influential baptism story that you heard this week and why?

**Series Video:** Each week, a collection of ministry leaders will be recording a video that discusses this week's sermon and how it may apply to our lives according to each demographic represented here at 3Crosses church! We recommend that you either encourage your group to watch the video *before* the meeting, or the video can make for a great opening activity for your group!



### Objective #1: Identify your ability to see Jesus for this series!

**Primary Texts:** *John 3:1-21* – Pastor Danny's sermon introduces us to the concept of seeing Jesus clearly through the story of Nicodemus! Throughout the sermon, Pastor Danny suggested several different reasons why Nicodemus might not have seen Jesus clearly including approaching the situation in darkness, misapplying the relevant teachings of Jesus, and the lack of spiritual rebirth from the Holy Spirit. **How would you describe your current state of vision when it comes to seeing Jesus clearly?**

### Objective #2: Share the most difficult roadblocks when it comes to seeing Jesus for who he truly is.

**Selected Passages and Themes:** *Ephesians 1:15-21 (Comparison); Matthew 9:10-13 (Tradition); 1 Corinthians 13:12 (Living in the flesh); Titus 2:1-5 (Mentoring relationships)* – In the roundtable discussion video, each of our ministry leaders spoke about the different ways we struggle to see Jesus. **When do you find it the most difficult to see Jesus for who he truly is? What stands out to you about Nicodemus' spiritual blindness that resonates with your spiritual journey?**

### Objective #3: Pray that your group would experience the life that comes from the Holy Spirit!

**Primary Texts:** *Ezekiel 36:22—37:14* – Pastor Danny quotes that, "Jesus is not primarily concerned with making bad people good, He is concerned with making dead people alive." These scriptures describe the Spirit's work in the Old Testament that Jesus is referring to in his conversation with Nicodemus. **What are some steps that you can take to address some of the blind spots that you have in your walk with Jesus? How would you describe your current relationship with the Holy Spirit and how can we pray as a group that this relationship would grow!**

## **Closing Prayer:** (5-10 minutes)

*In light of what God is saying through this week's message, here's some suggestions of what your group could talk about with God in prayer.*

Thank our Heavenly Father for revealing himself to us by sending His son! Praise the Son for becoming a human so that we might see the Father and have direct access to Him through the shed blood of Jesus Christ! Ask that the Holy Spirit would open the eyes of our hearts so that we may continue to follow Jesus in a relationship with Him through the Holy Spirit as he equips us to live, love, and forgive like Jesus. Finally, pray that we as a church would have the courage and boldness to proclaim the gospel of Jesus as we continue to stay connected to the Holy Spirit and follow His lead in our lives.

## **THROUGHOUT THE WEEK**

**-Stay up to date with Coronavirus Ministry Opportunities:** Help us out by pointing the people in your Community Group to [3Crosses.org/coronavirus](https://3crosses.org/coronavirus). If you or anyone in your group is looking to serve food in our pantry, access spiritual care, or seek financial assistance, you can find all you need at [3Crosses.org/neighborhood](https://3crosses.org/neighborhood)

**-Can You See It! Series:** Each week, we will be recording a message that includes a collection of our ministry leaders and helps explain this week's study guide! *Tune in at 7:00 p.m. on Sunday Nights* each week for the premier of the video or check it out anytime on our [YouTube channel](#)!

**-Group Prayer:** This week, pray that the Spirit would illuminate the truth of Jesus in our lives! Challenge one or two members of your group by contacting them with a truth about Jesus upon which you are reflecting!

**-Further Reading:** *John 6* Next week, we will continue our series by covering the miracle of the fish and the loaves as well as the dialogue that takes place in these moments. As you read this story, try and empathize with the 1<sup>st</sup> century crowd and imagine what they saw physically and ask yourself what is Jesus trying to get them to see Spiritually!

**-Community Groups 2021:** For more information about joining a group, leading a group, or general inquiries, contact AJ at [avanegas@3crosses.org](mailto:avanegas@3crosses.org)