

Exchange 29 March 2014 Discussion Questions: “See with new eyes”

chosen and unchosen

Have you ever felt part of a ‘chosen’ group? An ‘unchosen’ group?

What would the woman think about Jesus after this interaction? Would she have been surprised by His treatment of her? Would she have understood Jesus’ intentions in the end?

Does our religious or national culture condone or promote dismissive treatment of any particular group? Does any group get preferential treatment? How does God view these distinctions?

Does God show preferential treatment at other times in the Bible?

How has Christianity impacted racism and civil rights, both historically and currently?

faith and silence

What does it mean to have great faith?

How does the woman demonstrate her faith? What does she have faith in?

Is there a difference between believing that God can perform a miracle, and believing that He will?

How does it affect your view of God when you don’t get a miracle?

How should we respond when we feel that God is silent? How does the woman respond?

What encourages you when you feel that God is silent?

Seeing clearly

Do we read the biblical text with our own presuppositions? Is it possible to truly understand even with historical knowledge?

How can we understand the messages that the Bible’s stories are trying to convey?