

Gospel Reflections on Sin and Salvation

Read the Scripture passage assigned to your group. Discuss with your group your understanding of the passage using the questions below. Write down your group's answers. During class discussion, write on this handout the answers you hear for the other two passages. Consider what Christ is telling us about sin and conversion through these questions.

John 4:4–42: Jesus Meets the Samaritan Woman at the Well

1. What does this Gospel account invite us to consider about sin in our personal lives?

2. Why is it significant that this account occurs in Samaria? What does the Gospel invite us to consider about social sin, sin in society?

3. What does this account tell us about the consequences of sin?

4. What is Jesus' response to the woman? How does he offer her freedom?

5. How does this Gospel account symbolize the waters of Baptism?



John 9:1–41: Jesus Heals the Man Born Blind

1. What is the community's belief about the relationship between sin and suffering? What is their attitude toward the man born blind?
2. What is Jesus' response to this belief?
3. How does the man born blind respond to his healing?
4. Why does Jesus tell the Pharisees they are blind?
5. What sins blind us to seeing and believing in God's saving grace?

John 11:1–44: Jesus Raises Lazarus from the Dead

1. What do you think is the primary question posed to readers in this Gospel account?
2. Why do Christians view sin as spiritual death?



3. The story of Lazarus is a sign of the Paschal Mystery—Jesus' suffering, death, Resurrection, and Ascension. How does the Paschal Mystery offer freedom to all believers?

4. How do Christians turn from sin and death to new life in Christ?

5. How does belief in Christ strengthen the desire to choose life and goodness over the consequences of sin?

