



## How To Get A Life [John 5:1-17; 9:1-41]

### *exercise*

Pastor James is in a leadership cohort with someone who's been blind since birth. He has a special understanding of the passage in John 9 where Jesus heals a man born blind. His friend in the cohort has suggested a simple coffee table exercise to give people with sight a glimpse of the world of the blind.

On a coffee table, place a cup in the center of the table. Next, imagine a very large number pad (on a cell phone) with the cup occupying the space for the number 5\*. Place nine M&Ms (or anything else that's small but easy to pick up with one hand) on the table, each one representing a numbered space on the pad, 0-9 with the exception of 5 (that's the cup). You should now be looking at a table with nine M&Ms in number pad formation with a cup in the number 5 position. Each person will then take turns picking up the M&Ms and placing them into the cup, **one at a time**, using only one hand. The first time, with eyes open, then again, blindfolded (cause people cheat - amazing.)

For the blindfolded round, each person can choose someone in the group to help them with verbal directions during the round. Time both rounds for each person (have an official timekeeper.) The person with the best combined time wins. (Add 5 seconds to the time for each M&M that hits the ground.)

\* Blind people are not without tools and real skills - this is very important to understand, according to James's friend. For example, they use the number 5 button on the number pad as a reference point when making phone calls.

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### *text*

**Jesus asks the paraplegic in John 5 a very specific question: "Do you want to be healed?" The paraplegic never answers the question.**

How do you hear his response to Jesus in 5:7?

Can you relate to the paraplegic's response? If so, how?

**Pastor James posited that the enemy of belief is not unbelief, but fear.**

Do you agree with this statement?

What specific fear in your life prevents your belief in God and his promises to flourish?