

# Looking Into My Father's Eyes

## MEETING MY NEED FOR GUIDANCE

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*Marvin Brubacher // May 21-22, 2016*

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### **WARMING UP**

1. What are some of the things that can be communicated from one person to another through simple eye contact? Do you have any personal examples of this with your spouse or kids?
2. It has been said that “eyes are the windows to the soul.” What does this mean? Do you agree or disagree? How so?

### **DIGGING IN**

3. *The Father's eyes of evaluation reveal his mercy toward us.*
  - Look up these verses which teach that God actively watches the activities of all people: Genesis 11:1-5; Psalm 11:4; 66:7; Proverbs 15:3; and 2 Chronicles 16:9. How should the reality of the Father's eyes of evaluation impact unbelievers and Christ followers differently?
  - How has God demonstrated his mercy to us in Jesus? What does Romans 5:1-11 say about this? What were the circumstances when you recognized and received the Father's mercy? How do we continue to need this on an ongoing basis?
4. *The Father's eyes of compassion reveal his care for us.*
  - Read Psalm 33:18-19; 34:15-16; Matthew 6:25-32; 10:29-31; and Philippians 4:19. How does God show his compassionate care in addressing both our eternal need and our temporal needs? When has the Father seen and met a significant need in your life? What does it mean to know that you are the “apple of his eye”?
  - In Matthew 9:35-38, Jesus sees the crowds and has compassion on them “because they were harassed and helpless.” How does your heart respond when you see the needs of people around you? What need could you address this week?
5. *The Father's eyes of direction reveal his guidance for us.*
  - What does Psalm 32:8-9 indicate about how God seeks to lead us lovingly and gently and about the kind of response that he desires from us? How does God want us to move from a “have to” mindset to a “want to” mindset?
  - The Father guides us as we look into his eyes (Psalm 123:1-2). Marvin challenged us to look reverentially, attentively, continuously, expectantly, submissively, and obediently. Unpack each of these words. How do we get to the place where, as we look into God's eyes, we can read his visual cues?

### **BREAKING OUT**

6. What things in your life distract you from looking intently into the Father's eyes? How do those things keep you from instant, complete obedience to him? Why is it so important to keep our eyes focused on Jesus (Hebrews 12:2) and the Word (James 1:22-25)? What is your obvious next step?