

## A REFLECTION ON JOHN 9: 1 - 41

### John 9: 1 -12

A man who had been blind all his life encountered Jesus and his eyes were opened. For the first time in his life he could see the people he loved, the colours around him, the place where he lived. Imagine how that must have felt for him - to see, really see for the first time. Seeing isn't just about the physical sense. We 'see' with our hearts and our minds as well.

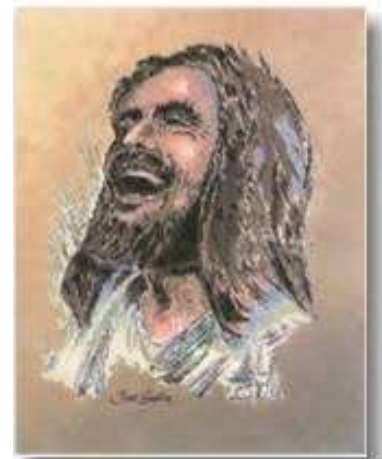
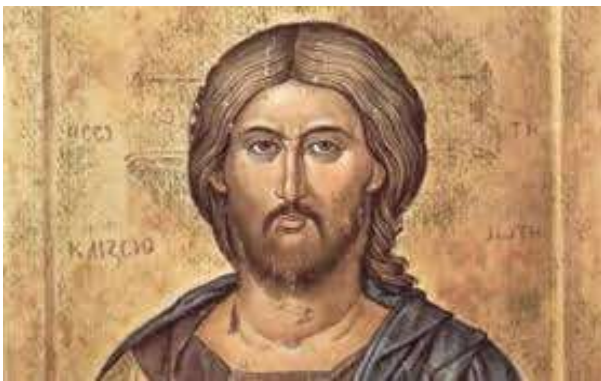
### So the question arises - how do we see Jesus?

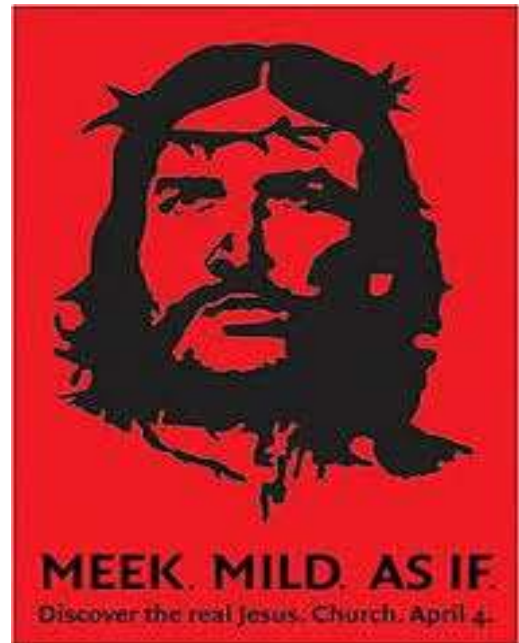
Look at these images of Jesus.

What do you see?

How do they make you feel?

Do they give you a different insight into this man Jesus?





Do some of these images make you uncomfortable? If so, why?  
Do they challenge how we have always seen Jesus?

**John 9: 13 - 34**

As the story in John's Gospel continues the Pharisees interview the man and demand an account of the healing. Angry at the man's challenge to their status and self-importance they throw him out of the temple where he once again meets Jesus.

**John 9: 35 - 41**

This time he sees Jesus clearly and now his spiritual eyes are open as well and he believes. The Pharisees, however, claim to know God but remain blind to the truth about Jesus.

What is it that may blind us to the truth about Jesus and how do we allow him to open our eyes to the truth?

*Lord God, we confess that we are sometimes blind to your truth. We see what we want to see and so miss out on the richness of who you are and all you want to show us.*

*Forgive us and open the eyes of our hearts that we may see and know Jesus.*

*We ask in the certainty that it is through Jesus we are forgiven and so we give you our thanks.*

*Amen*

Songs of Fellowship 443: Open our eyes, Lord

Singing the Faith 451: Open the eyes of my heart Lord

**Rev. John Barnett, March 2020**