

LifeGroup Study Sheet
Oct 23rd, 2022 – The Journey

This guide is designed to give helpful hints in preparing you for your group discussion.

Quick Review

Look back from your sermon notes – Was there anything that particularly challenged you from this sermon? Anything you didn't understand, agree with or connect with?

Introduction

Pastor Jeff started his sermon with an illustration about driving with blurry vision. Whether it's from not having your glasses/contacts on, being tired or driving at night – all of us have experienced blurry vision at one point or another. How do you think this illustration relates to your spiritual life? Is it possible for us to not see things the way God wants us to? How has this happened in your own life?

Digging In

Question 1: Read Mark 8:11-13. The Pharisees in this passage are “demanding a sign” from Jesus. Jesus' response through his body language and words can be a bit confusing at first glance. Why does Jesus respond the way he does? How can you apply this to your own life when you ask Jesus “for a sign” in your personal circumstances? What is the takeaway we should see in this interaction with Jesus?

Question 2: Read Mark 8:14-21. The disciples in this passage are still having trouble understanding the purpose of all that Jesus was doing. They had seen Jesus perform two different miracles of feeding thousands of people. Jesus asks, “do you not understand, are your hearts hard, do you not have eyes to see or ears to hear?” The realities Jesus wants to show his disciples go deeper than merely observing what He had done. What do you think Jesus is wanting His disciples to see and understand? How does this relate to your own walk with Jesus?

Question 3: Read Mark 8:22-29. The contrast between the two men in these two stories is remarkable. The blind man, can only see vaguely (v.24). Peter sees Jesus clearly, as the Christ (v.29)! Jesus as wanting us to see the spiritual reality of all of this. It is possible to see Jesus with blurry vision, but not see him completely for who He is!

Read 2 Corinthians 4:4

How is it possible in your own life that Satan has blinded your vision of seeing Jesus?

What obstacles in your life are causing you to not see Jesus as He claims in Scripture?

Question 4: Read Mark 8:30-33. Jesus' rebukes Peter's claim as demonic. Peter's vision was blurred by making the goal earthly instead of eternal. Peter needed to understand the goal of Jesus' life was to die for sin.

Read Colossians 3:2 and 2 Corinthians 4:18.

How does your life "fix on what is unseen, instead of what is seen?"

What are practical ways you do can focus on that while at work, school, hobbies, etc.?

Have you ever considered any of your "thoughts or claims" as "demonic?"

Taking it Home

Reflect on **Romans 8:24**.

How do you hope in what you do not see? Is it possible you are hoping in the things that you see right now? Have God remind you of His promises in faith.

Praise / Prayer Requests

Pray for your group with these things in mind:

Adoration – How can I praise God for what this teaches me?

Confession – What sin can I confess because of what this teaches me?

Thanksgiving – How can I thank God for what Jesus has done?

Supplication – What do I need to ask of God in order to grow in light of this?