

# GROWN UP PRAYERS



## WHAT CAN'T YOU SEE PAST?

All of us struggle to see things like Jesus does. This week, we dive deeper into how prayer can help us identify blindspots and follow Him more freely.

## Discussion Guide Wk. 4.

### READ OUTLOUD FOR A RECAP

#### **WHAT JESUS SEES:**

- He sees those in need and asks what he can do for them; followers of Jesus ask for their sight to be restored. (Luke 18:40,41)
- He sees past the things that trip us up most (wealth, theology, prejudice) Luke 18:34

#### **WHAT HE DOESN'T SEE:**

- He doesn't see our needs or areas of weakness as unsolvable flaws ( 2 Cor. 12:9).
- He doesn't see our money, our doctrine, or our ideals as central to the call to follow him.

## CONSIDER THIS

"'I don't know' is the most humble way to pray." - Pastor Kyle

**Following Jesus means asking to see things we can't on our own—not so we can be more right or more well-off—but to keep us close to the heart of a God who teaches the teachable.**

- Religion promises that money is a sign of God's blessing, theology is more important than relationships, and that your prejudice keeps you safe from people unlike you.
- Relationship promises that generosity is a sign of God's power in your life. good theology will come when surrounded by those you're called to love, and prejudice has no place in a kingdom made for outsiders and the lost.

## Q + A

### **Q: What is blocking your sight?**

- Pastor Kyle identified three things that can hinder clear sight: *past, personality, and prejudice.*
- What one resonates with you most?
- What is it about that blocker that keeps you from experiencing the sight Jesus offers?

# DIG DEEPER

## Read Luke 18:31-34

- In context, this section of scripture is about Jesus foretelling his death to his disciples. But his disciples could not "see" what was coming.
  - The kind of kingdom Jesus was coming to build made no sense to them because they were looking for a political one that overthrew the Roman government.
  - The disciples wanted immediate results from Jesus instead of a long-term plan for salvation that would effect humankind for millennia to come.
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- Why do you think the disciples couldn't understand what Jesus was trying to tell them?
  - Do you think it's common for God to bring about his purposes in ways that are much different than we expect?
  - How might this inform what we hope to "see" as a result of our prayers?

**BUT THEY DID NOT UNDERSTAND THE SAYING, AND WERE AFRAID TO ASK HIM. (MK. 9:32)**

# LET'S BE REAL

We all have blindspots. This shouldn't keep us from a deeper relationship with Jesus and with each other, instead it should develop deeper understanding between us.

**What are some ways you convince yourself that the way you see the world is the right way?**

Do you think your relationships might improve if you made room for other ways of seeing?

**CHOOSE.**

**ACKNOWLEDGE.**

**DECLARE.**

# Let's Grow Up.

Whose kingdom are you building?

Pastor Kyle challenged us with these next steps:

1. **Choose** to identify the blocker of sight in your life.
2. **Acknowledge** like Bartimaeus that you are blind and in need of restoration.
3. **Declare** that you want to see, so you can be free.

## The Bartimaeus Prayer

*Jesus stopped and ordered the man to be brought to him. When he came near, Jesus asked him, What do you want me to do for you?" "Lord, I want to see," he replied.*

1. Ask Jesus to come near.
2. Believe that he is asking you how he can help.
3. Ask him to increase your desire for the kind of sight he gives.
4. Stay alert to the ways your sight begins to change and what he draws your attention to.