

OPENING QUESTION

How can we grow in our ability to see clearly?

READ TOGETHER

Mark 8:14-21

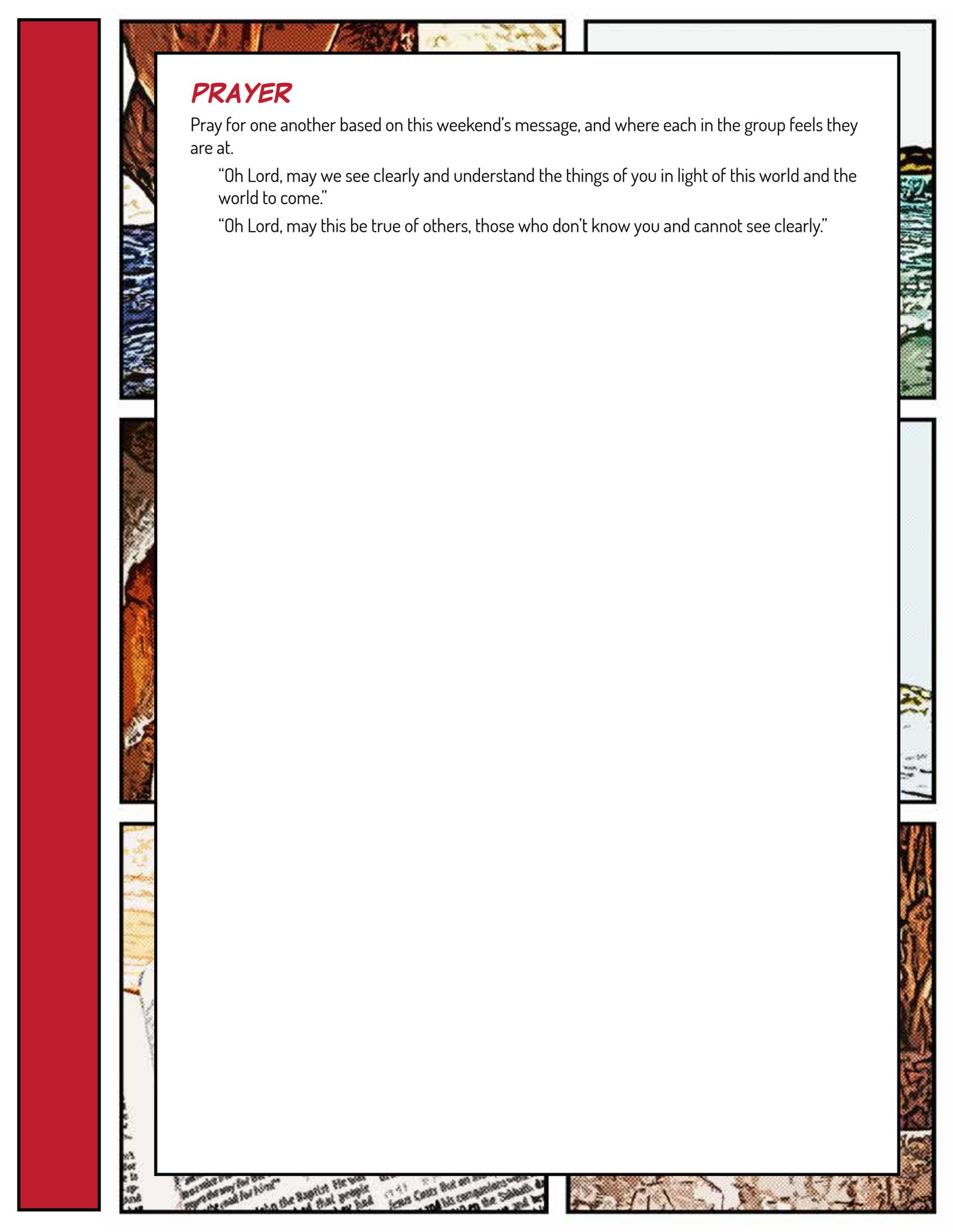
BIG IDEA

Jesus is the sight of the world.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. How does the context of chapter 8 help you to interpret the mystery of the multi-stage healing?
2. Why do you think that Jesus fed 5,000 people and then quickly afterwards fed 4,000 people? What was the purpose in this?
3. Why do you think the disciples missed the clues that Jesus was laying down? How do we miss the clues that Jesus lays down to each of us?
4. Read 2 Corinthians 4:4 – how do you think this verse applies to the message this week? What is the best way to address this problem?
5. As you see the miracles of Jesus, and begin to understand who he is – how does Colossians 1:15-20 add to that understanding? How does this add to the way that you live out your faith on a daily basis?
6. Remembering the 3 Eye Exams – blind, semi-blind and clear-sighted (or blind as a bat, blind as my grandma, and hawk-eyed) – who in Mark chapter 8 fit each description? And what characterized their hearts/eyes? What would they do to become more clear-sighted?
7. The Pharisees did not realize that they were blind – they thought they saw clearly. In Revelation 3:17 there is a warning to the church at Laodicea about their blindness. Give it a read. How would you ever know about your own blind spot? What would be some ways that you could expose these blind spots and begin to address them?
8. Where would you place yourself on the eye exam? Why? What would it take for you to see more clearly?
9. Read 1 Peter 2:8,9 & John 12:44-46. What does it look like for someone to see clearly and live by faith? What are the benefits of this? Do you know anyone like this? How could you grow more deeply in this? How could you help each other?

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PRAYER

Pray for one another based on this weekend's message, and where each in the group feels they are at.

"Oh Lord, may we see clearly and understand the things of you in light of this world and the world to come."

"Oh Lord, may this be true of others, those who don't know you and cannot see clearly."