Pastor Dave Rohde

For Sunday, November 15th
"Do You See Where This Is Going?"

Mark 8:22-9:1 – *NIV*

22 They came to Bethsaida, and some people brought a blind man and begged Jesus to
touch him. 23 He took the blind man by the hand and led him outside the village. When
he had spit on the man's eyes and put his hands on him, Jesus asked, "Do you see
anything?"

24 He looked up and said, "I see people; they look like trees walking around."

25 Once more Jesus put his hands on the man's eyes. Then his eyes were opened, his
sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. 26 Jesus sent him home, saying,
"Don't even go into the village."

27 Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way
he asked them, "Who do people say I am?"

28 They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of
the prophets."

29 "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?"

Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."

30 Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about him.

31 He then began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be
rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must
be killed and after three days rise again. 32 He spoke plainly about this, and Peter took
him aside and began to rebuke him.

33 But when Jesus turned and looked at his disciples, he rebuked Peter. "Get behind
me, Satan!" he said. "You do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely
human concerns."

34 Then he called the crowd to him along with his disciples and said: "Whoever wants
to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. 35 For
whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me and for
the gospel will save it. 36 What good is it for someone to gain the whole world, yet
forfeit their soul? 37 Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? 38 If anyone is
ashamed of me and my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, the Son of Man
will be ashamed of them when he comes in his Father's glory with the holy angels."

9 1 And he said to them, "Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste
death before they see that the kingdom of God has come with power.

Takeaway: We learn to see Jesus more clearly when we get behind him and follow where he leads..

Questions:

1. Reflect on Mark 8:22–26. Jesus asks the man what he can see, and the man tells him exactly what's still blurry. When you look around the world and reflect on your life today, what is still "blurry" for you?
2. Reflect on Mark 8:27–28. The disciples tell Jesus what other people are saying about him. Who are the voices that shape your understanding of Jesus?
3. N.T. Wright compares the disciples' understanding to the blind man slowly gaining his sight. What evidence do we have that the disciples are beginning to "see" Jesus more clearly? Where is their vision still blurry?
4. How does Jesus' rebuke redirect Peter as a disciple? What are some areas we might need to be redirected today?

Sermon: https://podcast.wpcwestlake.org/services/mp3/sermon20261115.mp3
Service Video: https://youtu.be/oFEaMQXaYGc
Alternate Service Video: https://wpcwestlake.livecontrol.tv/def2d85a