



“Sight for Sore Eyes”

Take Back Your Life series, 1.14.24

Pastor Jason Strickling

We see what we want to see, but reality is also made up of what we can't see.

“We see the world not as it is, but as we are.”

—Steven Covey, *7 Habits of Highly Effective People*

God's Big Idea: God wants you to see more.

“The eye is the lamp of the body. If your eyes are healthy, your whole body will be full of light. But if your eyes are unhealthy, your whole body will be full of darkness. If then the light within you is darkness, how great is that darkness!

—Matthew 6:22-23

1. Pressure

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

—Romans 15:13

2. Trauma

When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross.

—Colossians 2:13-15

3. Focus

We fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen, since what is seen is temporary, but what is unseen is eternal.

—2 Corinthians 4:18

4. Dilation

I pray that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people.

—Ephesians 1:18

5. Brilliance

Turn and answer me, O Lord my God! Restore the sparkle to my eyes, or I will die.

—Psalm 13:3

Discussion questions

1. Talk about a time in your life when someone/something was “hiding in plain sight”.
2. Read Matthew 6:22-23. How are your spiritual eyes the lamp/light of your body?
3. According to Romans 15:13, what 3 things does God fill us with when we feel pressure?
4. Trauma is a tough subject, maybe too tough to share in your group. But according to Colossians 2:13-15, what has God already done to turn your trauma into triumph?
6. Read 2 Corinthians 4:18. How can you focus on something you can't see?
7. Read Psalm 13:3. Can you relate to how David (the author) is feeling? In what area(s) of your life do you need God to “restore the sparkle”?
8. As a group, pray Ephesians 1:18 for each other this week.