



The Book of Mark

Session 7: Mark 6:30 – 8:30

We are dealing this week with a larger portion of scripture. At the heart of this study we will see Jesus creating something new in the midst of the old and what's failed. We will look at 3 distinct goals in this teaching.

1. Understanding Jesus's character and mission.
2. Seeing Jesus's ability to equip us and follow him.
3. Live in the light of our knowledge of who Jesus is and what he is about.

Read Mark 6:30-44

Jesus gathers the apostles (the sent ones) from their first teaching tour. Excited and exhausted, they didn't even take time to eat. He sees the exhaustion in their faces, so he tells them, "Let's go to a quiet place and rest".

Question: When was the last time you took time to rest yourself? Jesus saw the importance of doing it. Do you?

As they head out on the boat to find a solitary place, the crowds continue to watch and follow him from the shoreline. How does Jesus respond? With compassion, and he leads like a good shepherd.

Question: How do you respond when you're tired or overwhelmed? Do you lead with grace?

Jesus performs an incredible miracle by feeding the masses who are following him. All ate and were satisfied.

Question: Why is it important to help satisfy a person's personal need first before you can help satisfy the spiritual need?

Read Mark 6:45-56

Jesus tells his men to get into the boat and go on ahead. The storm comes on the Sea of Galilee and they are rowing for all their worth. Then comes Jesus walking on the water. They were terrified.

Question: They witnessed Jesus calming the storm in Mark 4:35-41. Why do you think their hearts were hardened by unbelief in vs 52 when they saw the miracle of feeding the masses?

Jesus and the disciples return to the other side of the sea, only to be followed by the sick who begged for a touch by Jesus.

Question: They ran after Jesus in need of healing. How are you chasing Jesus? What are you needing from the Savior?

Read Mark 7:1-20

He didn't come to change our external behavior. He says, "I'm actually going to change you from the inside out. I can change your heart." That's the whole point of what Jesus was doing.

Question: Jesus didn't come to save us from religion. He came to save and heal our hearts. How has Jesus met you right where you are? Are you changing from the inside out?

Reread Mark 7:20-23. Fellowship with God is not interrupted by unclean hands or food but by sin.

Question: Are there any areas of these sins that strike you? Do you bring them to Jesus, or do you try to justify them by good deeds? Tough question!

Read Mark 7:24-30

It is the only time in the book of Mark 7:28 that Jesus is addressed as Lord. Lord refers to someone with authority control, or power over others.

Question: The woman from Phoenicia begs Jesus to heal her daughter and calls Jesus "Lord"! What do you think she saw in Jesus as opposed to the others who came to Him?

Read Mark 7:31-37

A man who was deaf and who could hardly talk was healed. Jesus came to redeem his people.

Question: Why do you think Jesus commanded the man not to tell anyone? Have you ever been asked to be still on a matter? Did you?

Read Mark 8:1-13

Jesus had just fed the 5,000 and now he feeds the 4,000. They again ate until they were satisfied. The Pharisees saw the miracle, yet they wanted more proof, a sign from heaven. Jesus refuses their request.

Question: They were denied because their request came from unbelief. Are there areas in your life that you request an answer from Jesus, but you fall to unbelief?

Read Mark 8:14-30

We see a bizarre moment in Mark 8:22-26. A man comes to Jesus to have his blindness healed. But it takes Jesus two tries to get the man to see.

Question: Jesus pairs things into twos. Two intentional actions. Why is Jesus showing two comparisons? What is he hoping that his own disciples will see?

Assignment: Based on what we've learned this week, how would you describe Jesus to a stranger? Write down, what was Jesus's mission? Do you remember? Have you signed up for Vital Ministries daily devotionals?

Next week: Session 8 read Mark 8:31-10:52

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