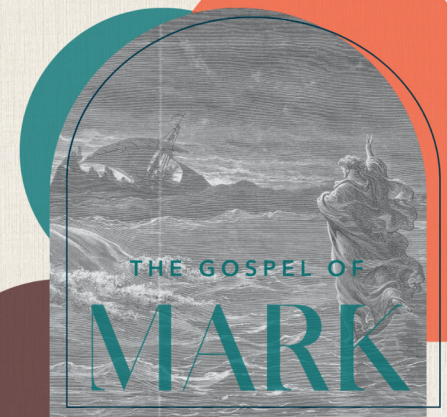


November 12, 2023

EYES TO SEE & EARS TO HEAR

Pastor Roger Poupart // Mark 7:24-37



PREPARE YOUR HEART & MIND

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.



24 Now Jesus got up and went from there to the region of Tyre. And when He had entered a house, He wanted no one to know about it; and yet He could not escape notice. 25 But after hearing about Him, a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately came and fell at His feet. 26 Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician descent. And she repeatedly asked Him to cast the demon out of her daughter. 27 And He was saying to her, "Let the children be satisfied first, for it is not good to take the children's bread and throw it to the dogs." 28 But she answered and said to Him, "Yes, Lord, but even the dogs under the table feed on the children's crumbs." 29 And He said to her, "Because of this answer, go; the demon has gone out of your daughter." 30 And after going back to her home, she found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

31 Again He left the region of Tyre and came through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, within the region of Decapolis. 32 And they brought to Him one who was deaf and had difficulty speaking, and they begged Him to lay His hand on him. 33 And Jesus took him aside from the crowd, by himself, and put His fingers in his ears, and after spitting, He touched his tongue with the saliva; 34 and looking up to heaven with a deep sigh, He said to him, "Ephphatha!" that is, "Be opened!" 35 And his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was removed, and he began speaking plainly. 36 And He gave them orders not to tell anyone; but the more He ordered them, the more widely they continued to proclaim it. 37 And they were utterly astonished, saying, "He has done all things well; He makes even those who are deaf hear, and those who are unable to talk, speak."



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GROW IN THE WORD

- Why did Jesus initially deny the woman's request in verse 27? Consider the main point of the metaphor used, and see also Matthew 15:24; Ecclesiastes 3:1.

- How does this passage relate to others in the New Testament that make no distinction between Jew and Gentile? See Colossians 3:10-11; Galatians 3:27-29.

02. Jesus left Tyre and entered another Gentile region and was brought a deaf and nearly mute man. Those who brought the man begged Jesus to heal him. Jesus took the man aside privately and healed him with the use of his hands, saliva, and through prayer. The man was healed, and although Jesus instructed them to keep the miracle a secret, they continued to proclaim news about him (v. 31-37).

- What do you learn about Jesus considering the way that he healed the deaf man? Compare and contrast this healing with the healing in the previous passage.



GROW IN THE WORD

- Why do you think the people were unable to obey Jesus' instruction to keep the miracle quiet? In what way can you relate to them?

- How do you want your thoughts, feelings, and actions to change in light of this passage?

UPCOMING EVENTS

THE GATHERING: WOMEN'S EVENT

December 5 | 6:30 pm | Fellowship Hall

Ladies, this Christmas season let's set our hearts and posture toward the coming King with a night of fellowship, worship, scripture reading, and teaching from Luke 1. Invite a friend and register online today!

RIGHTNOW MEDIA

20,000+ Free Resources

We are excited to announce that as part of our commitment to supporting your faith journey, we are providing FREE access to RightNow Media! We believe that this resource can be a powerful tool to help you grow in your relationship with God. Learn more online!

GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Pray to begin your group time. Remind the group why you are meeting: to connect in meaningful relationships, to grow spiritually, and to engage in the life and work of the church together. Reflect on the values you want to share as a group (i.e. confidentiality, authenticity, grace).

CONNECT (30-40 MIN)

You can use these suggestions to foster connection and build community in your group. You can break your group into smaller parts if needed, pick a question to discuss, and let each member get to know one another.

- Spend a few minutes catching up with one another. Share something you are thankful for this week.
- Ask the second question in the Connect section of the passage guide and give each person a chance to respond. Refer specifically to holiday traditions.

GROW (30-40 MIN)

Gather back as a big group if you broke up earlier and have one person pray over your time discussing God's word. As you discuss, don't worry if there are questions left unanswered or unresolved. Reach out to ministry leaders or pastors for any needed clarification.

- Select 1 or 2 questions that resonate most with you or your group for each section. If there are questions left unanswered, be comfortable with the group wrestling with how to understand the text.
- Read each section of Scripture you are focusing on prior to discussion and before asking each question. Read cross-references together if the questions have them.

ENGAGE (30-40 MIN)

Reflect on the biblical truth God revealed to you this week and discuss a plan of action to apply what you have learned. Gather in smaller groups of 2-4 again. Discuss your plan of action and pray for one another.

- Discuss the last question of the passage guide. Encourage your group to apply the truth that stuck out most to them.
- Close group time by sharing prayer requests and praying for one another.