

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, August 30, 2015

Passage: Mark 8:22-26

Memory Passage: Mark 8:25

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Mark 8:22-26.** Locate Bethsaida on a map. What differences are there between the people and customs of “the region of Decapolis” (7:31) and Bethsaida?

(b) What similarities do you see between this healing and the healing in 7:31-37? What differences do you see? What is significant about the differences?

(c) What one aspect of this healing is different than every other healing in Mark (and in all 4 gospels, for that matter)?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Mark 8:22-26.** The crowd begged Jesus to “touch” the man, and Jesus first “took him by the hand.” Do you think the crowd or the man was satisfied at this immediate capitulation to their request? Why or why not?

(b) Why did Jesus lead the man out of the village?

(c) What did you learn while studying 7:31-37 that helps you understand why Jesus might have “spit” on the man’s eyes? Is this the same type of situation or different? How do you know?

(d) Why is it important for you to know that Jesus “laid his hands on” the man?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Mark 8:22-26.** Why did Jesus ask the man, “Do you see anything?” (v. 23)?

(b) How does this question connect vs. 22-26 with vs. 14-21?

(c) What is the blind man conveying to Jesus by his answer, “I see men, but they look like trees walking?”

(d) Why does Jesus’ first attempt to heal the man fall short of complete healing? Think about the answers to such questions as: Was this a particularly hard case to heal? Was Jesus unsure of how much power it would take? Did He fail the first time? Was He surprised by the “half” healing? Was there a specific purpose to this 2-stage healing?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

(a) **Read Mark 8:22-26.** What was the result of Jesus’ second touch?

(b) Why did Jesus command the man, “Do not even enter the village?”

(c) You have answered questions so far this week that probe specific aspects of Mark’s theological purpose for this healing, but today let’s get specific: How does Mark’s account of this healing give us a theological understanding of what Jesus is doing with the disciples and their lack of sight, hearing, and understanding (8:17-21)?

(d) What should we expect to see from the disciples in the future given Mark’s theological lesson?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 8:22-26.** In what ways are you like the disciples and their continued failure to see and understand?
- (b) How does the theological truth behind this two-step healing apply to your daily sanctification?
- (c) In what ways do you see the idea of continuing touches from Jesus bringing about clarity of sight helping you in your daily discipleship with other believers?
- (d) Jesus has healed in multiple ways in Mark. What does this diversity reveal to you about the way Jesus works with specific individuals to accomplish specific things, including healing one individual but affecting others who are not healed?

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Seeing Clearly