

MARK: COME FOLLOW ME

Is Seeing Believing?

For the _____, seeing was not believing. Mark 8:10-13

For the _____, seeing was not believing. Mark 8:14-21

For the _____, seeing was believing. Mark 8:22-26

For _____, seeing was believing. Mark 8:27-30

For _____, believing was not fully seeing. Mark 8:31-33

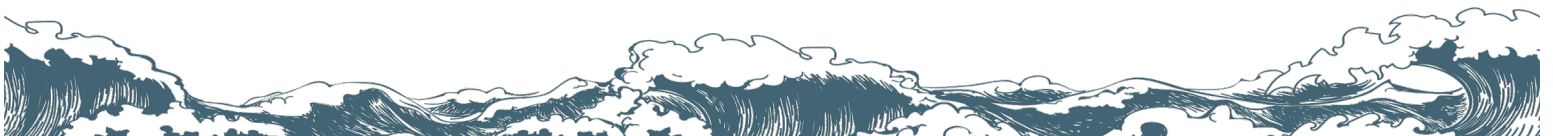
For the _____, even weak believing was seeing. Mark 9:20-27

Faith is to believe what we do not see, and the reward for this faith is to see what we believe.

Augustine

Dan Eckley 2/13/2022

mark



IS SEEING BELIEVING?

The Word of God

Mark 8:10-38

10 And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha.
11 The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him.
12 And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Truly, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation."
13 And he left them, got into the boat again, and went to the other side.
14 Now they had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat.
15 And he cautioned them, saying, "Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod."
16 And they began discussing with one another the fact that they had no bread.
17 And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened?
18 Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember?
19 When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" They said to him, "Twelve."
20 "And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" And they said to him, "Seven."
21 And he said to them, "Do you not yet understand?"
22 And they came to Bethsaida. And some people brought to him a blind man and begged him to touch him.
23 And he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Do you see anything?"
24 And he looked up and said, "I see people, but they look like trees, walking."
25 Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly.
26 And he sent him to his home, saying, "Do not even enter the village."
27 And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" 28 And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets."
29 And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ."
30 And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.
31 And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again.
32 And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.
33 But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."
34 And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.
35 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it.
36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?
37 For what can a man give in return for his soul?
38 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."

Mark 9:14-29

14 And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them.
15 And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him.
16 And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?"
17 And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute.
18 And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able."
19 And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me."
20 And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth.
21 And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood.
22 And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us."
23 And Jesus said to him, "'If you can!' All things are possible for one who believes."
24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!"
25 And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again."
26 And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead."
27 But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose.
28 And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?"
29 And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

mark



Is Seeing Believing?

February 13, 2022



Open: What is something you understand now that you were unable to see a few years ago?

Read & Discuss: Mark 8:14-21

1. What do we learn about the disciples in verses 14-17? How would you describe what Jesus means by "the leaven of the Pharisees" (v. 15)?
2. In verses, 17-21 Mark shares a story of Jesus admonishing the disciples for not understanding the two miracles of feeding the multitudes. Given the larger context of this chapter as well as the references to the leaven of the Pharisees, what do you think Jesus wanted them to understand?

Read & Discuss: Mark 8:22-38

3. How does the unique healing of the blind man seem to compliment what Mark is trying to communicate regarding seeing Jesus? How has your understanding of Jesus become clearer over time?
4. After Peter correctly identifies Jesus as the Christ (v. 29), Jesus begins to paint a picture for them of what it means to be the Christ (vv. 30-31). How does Peter react in verse 32? According to Jesus' rebuke in the following verse, what wrongly motivated Peter? How would you put Jesus' correction to Peter (v. 33) in your own words?
5. How do verses 34-38 describe what pursuing the things of God would look like for these disciples? How does Jesus attempt to motivate his disciples to follow him wholeheartedly? What conclusion should we draw from Jesus' words to his disciples about our own expectations and motivations in following Jesus?
6. Seeing Jesus rightly and following him fully will often mean laying down our plans and dreams in service of God. How have you seen this to be true in your relationship with Christ?

Apply: How would you summarize what Mark wants us to know about Jesus as a result of this section? Where do you think this has relevant application to your life? What would be a good first step toward pursuing that?

Pray: Ask God to help us see Jesus clearly and to transform our hearts to love what he loves and serve as he serves. Pray we set our minds on the things of God and not the things of man.

Mark 8:14-38

¹⁴ Now they had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. ¹⁵ And he cautioned them, saying, "Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod." ¹⁶ And they began discussing with one another the fact that they had no bread.

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