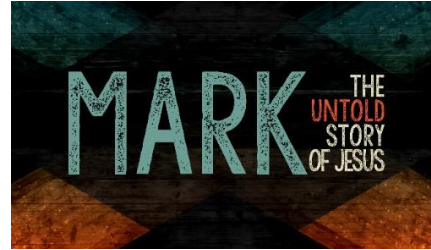


Eastridge Church
Sermon Study Questions

Series - Mark: The Untold Story of Jesus

Week 23: Open Your Eyes

Passage: Mark 8:13-30 & Eph. 1:18-23



Conversation Starter:

What is one of the most memorable things you have seen? What was the context and why was it so memorable?

In vs 15 Jesus tells his disciples to “beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.” The disciples take Jesus’ comment about leaven to be a jab at them for forgetting to bring more than one loaf of bread on the boat. *In your own words, what is Jesus telling his disciples to beware of? Is there something uniquely dangerous about this “leaven” being present in the lives of believers? Re-read Mark 8:17-21. What is Jesus really concerned about? What is he wanting the disciples to understand?*

In the next part of the sermon Ben highlighted a healing that had a unique characteristic. Specifically, that Jesus laid his hands on the blind man twice for him to have his sight restored. *What is significant about the fact that Jesus had to touch this man twice? What is Mark highlighting by putting this healing between these two stories in his gospel account?*

In verses 27-30 we witness get a moment of clarity and understanding. Jesus asks the disciples who they believe he is, and Peter speaks up and says, “You are the Christ.” (vs 29) An important point in the sermon is that we cannot rely on the opinions and experiences of others to make up our minds about Jesus. Instead, we need to take ownership of our relationship with him and come to a firm understanding and conclusion. *What does this ownership look like in your life? Do you remember the moment you recognized Jesus for who he really was? In uncertain times how do we remain focused on the truth of Christ in the midst of the chaos? How do we encourage others around us to do that as well?*

Question from Ben to reflect on today and this week:

As you journey through this life, are you able to look up from your circumstances/the circumstances of the world and see clearly the all-sufficient One who is with you in the boat?

Finish your time praying together, that God would open the eyes of your hearts to see all that Jesus is.