Seeing - Let's Go Mark 8:1-26 7-25-21

I. We See Problems.

Mark 8:1-8 — "In those days, when again a great crowd had gathered, and they had nothing to eat, He called His disciples to Him and said to them, 'I have compassion on the crowd, because they have been with Me now three days and have nothing to eat. And if I send them away hungry to their homes, they will faint on the way. And some of them have come from far away.' And His disciples answered Him, 'How can one feed these people with bread here in this desolate place?' And He asked them, 'How many loaves do you have?' They said, 'Seven' ...and they ate and were satisfied."

II. We See with Unbelief.

Mark 8:11-13 — "The Pharisees came and began to argue with Him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test Him. 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.' And He left them, got into the boat again, and went to the other side."

III. We See Ourselves.

Mark 8:14-16 — "Now they had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. And He cautioned them, saying, 'Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.' And they began discussing with one another the fact that they had no bread."

Mark 8:17-21 — "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? Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember?'...And He said to them, 'Do you not yet understand?"

IV. We See Gradually.

Mark 8:22-26 — "And they came to Bethsaida. And some people brought to Him a blind man and begged Him to touch him. 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?' And he looked up and said, 'I see people, but they look like trees, walking.' Then Jesus laid His hands on his eyes again; and He opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. And He sent him to his home, saying, 'Do not even enter the village."

Mark 8:29 — "And He asked them, 'But who do you say that I am?' Peter answered Him, 'You are the Christ.'"

1. See more than you see right now.

1 Corinthians 2:9 – "... <u>no eye has seen</u>, nor ear heard, nor the heart of man imagined, <u>what</u> God has prepared for those who love Him."

2. See the opportunities.

John 4:35 – "Jesus said, '...Look, I tell you, <u>lift up your eyes</u>, and <u>see that the fields are white</u> for harvest.""

Prayer: Lord Jesus, open our eyes, to see You, people and situations like You do. We ask in Your name, amen.

Going Deeper This Week

- 1. Which subjects did you enjoy in school? What subjects could you just not get or could not see a reason for them?
- 2. What is the significance of this miraculous feeding taking place in Gentile territory?
- 3. How do these miraculous feeding episodes serve as a sign of the inbreaking of the kingdom of God? What do they ultimately point to? (Psalm 34:8, John 6:53-58)
- 4. Have you ever encountered someone who wouldn't accept your explanation of Christianity even if you used sound logic? What would it take to get through to such a person? (Acts 16:14, 1 Corinthians 12:3)
- 5. How was Jesus' method of healing this blind man an encouragement and illustration for His disciples? How is it encouraging for you?
- 6. Pray for one another's growth in Christ and that you we would see afresh in His word (Psalm 119:18). Pray for God to reveal who is your one to ask to come with you Sunday or that you could share God's story.