

# The Gospel of Mark

Chapter 8

Do You See Clearly?



# Eyes That Don't "See"

Blindness to the reality of Jesus



# Three Types of Blindness

- Religious blindness – Refuses to believe
- Familiar blindness – Believes but does not trust
- Honest blindness – Longs to see clearly



# Jesus is Asking You

- Am I seeing clearly?
- Am I seeing without understanding?



# Disciples - Blindness

- Witnessed the abundance
- Fail to understand who Jesus is



# Pharisees - Blindness

- Demand a sign
- Decline to accept evidence
- Delusional – control not truth

*But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear. For truly, I say to you, many prophets and righteous people longed to see what you see, and did not see it, and to hear what you hear, and did not hear it. ~Mt. 13:16-17*



# Matthew 21:32

*John came to you in the way of righteousness, and you did not believe him, but the tax collectors and the prostitutes believed him and even when you saw it you did not afterward change your minds and believe him.*



# Verses Applied to the Pharisees & Us

- *They are darkened in their understanding alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.* ~Ephesians 4:18
- *This is the verdict. Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil.* ~ John 3:19

*Truth: The Pharisees did not want to change!*



# Jesus Asks of the Disciples

- *“Why are you discussing bread?”*
- *“Do you not yet understand?”*
- *“Having eyes, do you not see?”*



# Truth

- *Proximity to Jesus does not guarantee understanding.*



# The Blind Man

*“I see people, but they look like trees, walking”*

~An honest confession



# A Come to Jesus Moment

- Some see clearly IMMEDIATELY
- Some believe but see blurrily

<b>CLARITY</b>	
Time	✓
Teaching	✓
Transfer	✓
Trust	✓



# Peter's Confession

*“You are the Christ!”*

And Jesus answered him, **“Blessed are you Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my father who is in heaven.”** ~Mt. 16:17



# Jesus

*“Get behind me, Satan. You are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man.” ~Mark 8:33*



# Truth

- Correct theology does not guarantee surrendered hearts.
- Our vision clouds when God's plan conflicts with our desires.



# The Bible Tells Us So

Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. ~Col. 3:1-3



# Jesus

“If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.”

~Mark 8:34

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= **Self-Surrender** (not self-denial as if eliminating sugar)



# Practice Being Jesus – He Gave His All

<b>Self-Sacrifice</b>	<b>Follow Me</b>
Your Plans	The heart of man plans his way, but the Lord establishes his steps. ~Prov. 16:9
Your Ambitions	Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ~Phil 2:3
Your Rights	Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding. ~Prov. 3:5
Your Comfort	Cast all your anxiety on Him because He cares for you. 2Cor. 1:3-4



# Truth

Joy and peace come when we surrender everything to the Lord.

*But whatever gain that I had, I counted as loss for the sake of Christ. Indeed, I count everything as loss because of the surpassing worth of just knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things and count them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ...*

~Phil. 3:7-8



# Jesus

“What does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?”

~Mark 8:36



# Jesus

“Whoever is ashamed of me and my words...the Son of Man will be ashamed of him.”

~Mark 8:38



# Jesus Asking Right Now!

Who do you say that I am?

Are you willing to follow me in surrender?

