

**This Week's Text:** Mark 7:31-8:26 – The Powerful Giver

**Next Week's Text:** Mark 8:27-9:1 – The Powerful Messiah

**I. He Gives Speech to the Speechless (7:31-37)**

- a. Jesus Heals with Compassion
- b. Jesus Heals with Purpose

**II. He Gives Opportunities to the Obstinate (8:1-9)**

- a. Obstinate Disciples Don't Follow Jesus' Heart
- b. Obstinate Disciples Don't Follow Jesus' Example

**III. He Gives Rebuke to the Rejectors (8:10-13)**

- a. The Rejectors Were Rebuked for their Doubt
- b. The Rejectors Were Rebuked for their Demands
- c. The Rejectors Were Rebuked for their Decision

**IV. He Gives Warning to the Wandering (8:14-21)**

- a. He Warns Them About Holding on to the Past
- b. He Warns Them About Forgetting the Past

**V. He Gives Sight to the Sightless (8:22-26)**

- a. Jesus Gives Partial Sight
- b. Jesus Gives Promises of Perfect Sight

**Corporate Reading Guide:**

This week in Mark 4-8 look at the way Jesus interacts with His disciples and consider how His example should impact us.

- For example, I was struck by how consistently patient He is with their lack of understanding, and that calls me to be patient when I am not understood.

**Discussion Questions:**

1. What impacted you or what did you learn from this week's corporate reading in Mark as you considered His treatment of the disciples?
2. What impacted you and/or what did you learn from this week's sermon?
3. Our church's mission statement is: "We exist to glorify God by growing together in the Grace and Truth of Jesus Christ." Why is it so important that we do those things "to glorify God" – rather than simply to do them?
4. How does the failure of the disciples throughout the Gospel of Mark give us hope in the face of our own failures?
5. James Edwards said, "Faith that depends on proof is not faith, but only veiled doubt." Why is it so dangerous – and so tempting – to demand signs from God?
6. What are you most often tempted to "leaven" the message of Jesus with from your past – and why would Jesus warn us against this?
7. Paul wrote in 1 Corinthians 13:12 about our temporary and partial sight "For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known." How does the hope of our promised perfect sight help us to stay faithful as we wait?