

Mark 7:24-8:26 | Language of the Heart

Announce:

1. End of the year Giving must be dated Dec. 31st
2. Christmas Eve Service 12:30pm Chapel Hills Church
3. "Windstorm" a look at the Power of the Holy Spirit, past revivals, and how that relates to us today Jan 5-6, 8-9
4. A new study of Ruth with Liz Holt "What I Wish Ruth Had Taught Me 29 years Ago."

Description- This is a 6 week study of the Book of Ruth, which will be designed to highlight many Biblical principles about family relationships, the power of desire, servanthood and Kingdom risk taking. Also, it will highlight the pitfalls of idols, self-centeredness and fear based decision making. It's going to be practically helpful for young single women, newly married and married with children. Worship is included.

5. **Tonight, stay a bit afterwards, we have a little announcement to make**

Jesus is being confronted by the Pharisee's and scribes. He is healing the sick, casting out demons, and all they care about is the washing of hands

Confronted by a woman with a daughter who is demonized.

We all have difficulties with our children, our marriages, our singleness, our husbands and wives...

Mark 7:24

From there He arose and went to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And He entered a house and wanted no one to know *it*, but He could not be hidden.

- Two Phoenician cities on the coast of the Mediterranean.
- He could not be hidden because of his popularity—though the Pharisees oppose him, the people don't
- Some believe that as many as 50k are following him
- Jesus is not seeking popularity and he is trying to stay obscure

For a woman whose young daughter had an unclean spirit heard about Him, and she came and fell at His feet. The woman was a Greek, a Syro-Phoenician by birth, and she kept asking Him to cast the demon out of her daughter.

- She is a gentile. Speaking a different language, different values, different language
- Worshipped Ashtar and Baal
- Had the mom led her daughter into religions that had led to her being demonized? How does a young girl get demonized?
- Matthew says she “cried out to him”
- The mother is possibly feeling guilty—probably blaming herself
- You mothers do struggle with the stuff our kids get involved in
- Christian families: Was I too strict? Not strict enough?
- Jesus crosses borders that no one else would cross: religious, values, language, ethnicity
- Ex. Jesus crossed boundaries to come into my life and accepted and loved me...Jesus crossed boundaries into your life!!
 - The Jesus I heard about at church wasn't the Jesus that met me when I was 18 years old.
 - He called me, He came to my dorm. The church didn't change my life, Jesus changed my life
- Jesus went all the way to Tyre and Sidon for this woman! Way out of the way—northwest from where he was 50 miles out of his way...walking—that's at least 2 days
- She is begging Jesus for help and He doesn't turn her away

Vs. 27

But Jesus said to her, “Let the children be filled first, for it is not good to take the children’s bread and throw *it* to the little dogs.” And she answered and said to Him, “Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs under the table eat from the children’s crumbs. Then He said to her, “For this saying go your way; the demon has gone out of your daughter.”

- She understands that she is nothing—a gentile, a dog
- The Jews did not have curse words like we do. You called someone a dog or pig or pigs head.
- But Jesus is using a warm term, like a puppy
- She says yes Lord, I’m nothing
- But they do get the crumbs
- I will be the little dog, the puppy. A crumb from you is worth it if it comes from you

Vs. 30

And when she had come to her house, she found the demon gone out, and her daughter lying on the bed.

- Her daughter laying quietly on the bed. When had she seen that before?
- Mom and dad if you have a prodigal, seek Jesus for their healing
- Plead for him, plead for her
- He is the same for us. He loves your kids. Seek him and don’t give up
- Quit torturing yourself—you have regrets, you have made mistakes. But take it to Jesus.
- This woman is our model. She came after Jesus, cried out to Jesus, for her daughter—this could be true about your marriage, about your boyfriend, etc
- This mother has watched her daughter tortured by the enemy—crying out, screaming, vexed, tortured by demons...but she never gave up
- Acts 21 Paul is on his journey to Jerusalem and landed at Tyre and “found disciples” there; there were disciples there. You know that woman and her daughter were one of them

Vs. 31

Again, departing from the region of Tyre and Sidon, He came through the midst of the region of Decapolis to the Sea of Galilee.

- Comes into another gentile area—Decapolis was a league of 10 Greek-influenced Hellenized cities east of the Jordan river

Then they brought to Him one who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech, and they begged Him to put His hand on him.

- They had seen him touch people and heal them through the laying on of hands, but Jesus does things his way
- We all want Jesus to heal the way we want him to heal

And He took him aside from the multitude (Jesus shows such dignity), and put His fingers in his ears, and He spat and touched his tongue. Then, looking up to heaven, He sighed, and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.”

- He took him aside—privately. Dignity. Honoring to this man.
- Jesus is quite creative in how he does stuff
- Jesus does something he hasn't done with anyone else
- Jesus has a unique miracle for this guy—he has a unique work for your life
- They had a heart language—not human language, but heart language
- Jesus understands the language of the heart—often non-verbal, he understands the language of the heart
- It is with the heart that we believe!
- An aramaic term...be opened. This man can't hear what he says. Who is he talking to?

Vs. 35

Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was loosed, and he spoke plainly. Then He commanded them that they should tell no one; but the more He commanded

them, the more widely they proclaimed *it*. And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

- His tongue is loosed and he could speak distinctly!!
- This is the same one who said “let there be light” When Jesus speaks the Spirit moves
- The man’s ears and mouth worked. It takes a child two to three years (the P factor—peters out at 16) for a child to develop speech by observation
- They were flabbergasted! Amazing
- He imparted a language to this man
- Ex. I know when Jesus is speaking to me—often very sweetly, very quietly, very gently but I can hear his voice. I feel his presence because he knows the language of my heart

Chapter 8

In those days, the multitude being very great and having nothing to eat, Jesus called His disciples *to Him* and said to them, “I have compassion on the multitude, because they have now continued with Me three days and have nothing to eat. And if I send them away hungry to their own houses, they will faint on the way; for some of them have come from afar.”

- This is “Feed the Multitudes 201.” We have already seen him do this—5000 men, so probably more like 20,000
- But they have been with him for 3 days

Vs. 4

Then His disciples answered Him, “How can one satisfy these people with bread here in the wilderness?” He asked them, “How many loaves do you have?” And they said, “Seven.” So He commanded the multitude to sit down on the ground. And He took the seven loaves and gave thanks, broke *them* and gave *them* to His disciples to set before *them*; and they set *them* before the multitude.

- The disciples have seen this before but this gentile crowd had not seen this

- Jesus takes the 7 loaves and blesses it
- Jesus is thanking the Lord for what he has
- 4k people are not saying thank you. They are hungry—this is the language of the heart too. Ladies remember this about your husbands! The way to the heart is through the stomach
- Ladies: A good meal satisfies a multitude of sins!
- Men: A good conversation satisfies a multitude of sins!

vs. 7

They also had a few small fish; and having blessed them, He said to set them also before *them*. So they ate and were filled, and they took up seven large baskets of leftover fragments.

- he just kept blessing and more kept coming and he blessed that
- What God blesses, multiplies

Now those who had eaten were about four thousand. And He sent them away, immediately got into the boat with His disciples, and came to the region of Dalmanutha.

- he has done this before—probably 20k counting children and women
- this time it's gentiles—big gentile baskets, huge basket that the gentiles used (the kind Paul is held in when he escapes over the wall in Tarsus)—7 of those left over
- the gentiles were under his blessing
- Might it also be symbolic of the 7 churches in Rev?

Vs. 11

Then the Pharisees came out and began to dispute with Him, seeking from Him a sign from heaven, testing Him. But He sighed deeply in His spirit, and said, “Why does this generation seek a sign? Assuredly, I say to you, no sign shall be given to this generation.”

- they are seeking for a sign? He is exasperated.
- He is raising the dead, cleansing the lepers, multiplying food and they still want a sign??

And He left them, and getting into the boat again, departed to the other side. Now the disciples had forgotten to take bread, and they did not have more than one loaf with them in the boat.

Vs. 15

Then He charged them, saying, “Take heed, beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.”

- The tenses, constantly be aware of the leaven of the Pharisees of religion
- Leaven is just a little bit of stuff from the last batch that is still left over for the next batch
- Constantly be careful. There is a little bit of religion in all of us. We can easily become judgmental
- Ex. We must constantly be on the guard against religiosity. We used to be filled with just love and now we have discernment and we become a Pharisee

- Leaven of the Pharisees—religion and judgmentalism; Leaven of Herod—politics and condemnation. We have to be the messengers of love and not let ourselves major on the minor

And they reasoned among themselves, saying, “*It is* because we have no bread.”

- We forgot to bring bread! They have already forgotten what God has done for them. Twice I have multiplied bread for you!!

But Jesus, being aware of *it*, said to them, “Why do you reason because you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive nor understand? Is your heart still hardened? Having eyes, do you not see? And having ears, do you not hear? And do you not remember? When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of fragments did you take up?”

They said to Him, “Twelve.”

“Also, when I broke the seven for the four thousand, how many large baskets full of fragments did you take up?”

And they said, “Seven.”

So He said to them, “How *is it* you do not understand?”

- This is why he tells them in Acts 1, don't do anything don't go anywhere until you are filled with the HS. These guys are idiots without Jesus without the HS
- Ex. Jesus has never asked me that question...what about you? Don't we all so easily forget?

Vs. 22

Then He came to Bethsaida; and they brought a blind man to Him, and begged Him to touch him.

- The only blind man healed in stages in the Bible
- Blindness is the most crippling and most frightening of all disabilities
- #1 fear of missing something, people say blindness. They would rather lose a limb than be blind
- Jesus' most often miracle is blindness

Vs. 23

So He took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the town. And when He had spit on his eyes and put His hands on him, He asked him if he saw anything.

- He spits on him—another creative way!
- Ex. Smith Wigglesworth, this guy was a powerful healer. He would take people's glasses and crush them and pray over them and they would get healed! He threw people against the wall and they got healed
- Ex. Earnest Angsley, I would make fun of him growing up. Then I met this man who was healed of smoking under Earnest Angsley...
- My advice: Don't spit on people okay?

And he looked up and said, "I see men like trees, walking."

- Vertical images, blurry, not clear yet
- He is the process of healing
- Sometimes God gradually heals—sanctification is that way

Then He put *His* hands on his eyes again and made him look up. And he was restored and saw everyone clearly. Then He sent him away to his house, saying, “Neither go into the town, nor tell anyone in the town.”

- “clearly” with a “glistening edge” (Gk)
- think about it—the first face he saw was the face of Jesus, with a big smile
- Ex. Isn’t he doing the same thing in you? Maybe last year you only saw men as walking, but it’s clear today.
- He is changing you:
 - How many times has he beckoned you to come?
 - How many times have I told you that I call things that are not as if they were
 - How many times have I told you that you are my sons and daughters
 - How many times have I told you, “you are saved by grace, not according to works”
 - How many times have I told you to drink from the living water?
 - Jesus crosses borders—no matter your race, ethnicity, drug addiction, sexual immorality—he knows the language of your heart
 - He puts his finger in our ears, spits on our tongue—he knows your heart
 - He speaks to your dead understanding and gives you wisdom

If you are not certain of your faith, come up and let us pray for you

We love talking to people about a relationship with Jesus, not religion, not church, but Jesus