

Mark 8:22-38

LW – Feeding 4K, Pharisees/Sign, Leaven Pharisees/Herod's

V22-26 Heals Blind Man at Bethsaida

* Bethsaida – Map – Last reference was V10 – Region of Dalmanutha (Magdala) & V13 – Boat/Other side

1. Brought a blind man to Him & begged Him to “touch him.”

- Possibly like those in the region of Decapolis (7:32) They heard that was the “method of healing” also

2. Jesus led the Blind man out of town (not out of eyesight of the people – evidenced during the healing)

a. Then He SPIT ON HIS EYES??? – Then put His hands on him – He asked if he saw...

b. Many ideas as to the reason for the “Two Part Healing.”

3. We know Jesus wasn't running low on power that day, or that He hadn't quite perfected this new method!

a. Gradual healing – Sometimes our healing happens gradual, Trust Jesus for complete healing

b. This came to life for me yesterday when I talked with Danny Golden - Story of “Alida Crank”

Application –

1. Allow the Lord to heal us in His Way & His timing & Trust Him for gradual healing!

2. We need to both LET GO & LAY HOLD of Jesus!

Philippians 3:12 ¹²Not that I have already attained, or am already perfected; but I press on, that I may lay hold of that for which Christ Jesus has also laid hold of me.

V27-30 Peter's Confession of Christ

* Caesarea Philippi – 25 miles north of Bethsaida; Banias - One of three sources of the Jordan River

* Two Questions:

1. Who do men say that I am?

* John the Baptist (Herod said this); Elijah – Malachi; One of the prophets

- Today there are many who say who Jesus is – Prophet, Michael/Arch Angel, Man/God, Good Man/Teacher

2. Who do you say that I am?

* Peter's Proclamation! – You are the Christ; Gk – Christos/Anointed One; The Messiah!!!

* That's what his brother told him,

John 1:40-41 ⁴⁰One of the two who heard John speak, and followed Him, was Andrew, Simon Peter's brother.

⁴¹He first found his own brother Simon, and said to him, “We have found the Messiah” (which is translated, the Christ).

* But Peter had to choose from himself...and he came to this conclusion...

* Peter had seen Jesus cast our demons & set people free of their power; He had seen Jesus cleanse the Leper from the Disease healing them and making them whole; He had heard Jesus forgive a man his sin that had debilitated/paralyzed him; He had watched a withered hand made whole as Religious Rulers stood by with their hard hearts & their pious positions; Seen a Man who lived among the dead, tormented out of his mind; Set Free, Made whole, Sitting clothed and in his right mind; Lastly he had seen one lifeless little girl, brought back to life, and Thousands feed with a few fish and loaves...

Application - Today You and I must do away with debating, and answer the question from the One who did all these things – Who do YOU say I am?

V31-33 Jesus' First Prediction of His Death/Resurrection

* This is the first of 3 times Jesus tells his disciples this – 3X = Completion

* The “Son of Man” must suffer – 84 times in Gospels – Applying that Messianic Title of

Daniel 7:13 ¹³“I was watching in the night visions, And behold, One like the Son of Man, Coming with the clouds of heaven! He came to the Ancient of Days, And they brought Him near before Him.

1. He would be rejected by Elders, Chief Priests & Scribes

2. He would be killed

3. But after 3 days he would rise again! (They didn't hear this!!!!)

* Peter rebukes Jesus; Jesus rebukes Peter & calls him Satan! Peter - From the Highest/Highs to Lowest/Lows

* Why such a Rough Rebuke???

* He rejected the Very Word of God just spoken to him!

* That is exactly what Satan did to get Adam & Eve to sin – To reject the Word of God! 1st Doubt/2nd Reject!

Genesis 3:1-4 And he said to the woman, “Has God indeed said, ‘You shall not eat of every tree of the garden?’”² And the woman said to the serpent, “We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; ³but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, ‘You shall not eat it, nor shall you touch it, lest you die.’ ”⁴ Then the serpent said to the woman, “You will not surely die.”

* And that is what will cause the most destruction in our lives!!!

Application – Psalm 119:160¹⁶⁰ The entirety of Your word is truth, And every one of Your righteous judgments endures forever.

V34-38 Jesus’ Call to Follow

V34 - Whoever Desires to follow Jesus:

1. Deny yourself – Deny self-centered life; where we are on/throne; Take ourselves off the throne of our lives...

2. Take up your cross – Place where Jesus allowed his Flesh/Son of Man be crucified

Galatians 2:20²⁰ I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

3. Follow Me – (Mood = Imperative = Command) Follow Jesus; Not a religion, not movement - Follow Jesus

Application -

- Follow Him into the Love/Compassion/Forgiveness/Healing/Mercy/Grace – Ultimately to the Presence of God

- Follow Him - Not for a Sunday Service, Not for a week, year, season – Just Follow...

- You may be here and say – I have done that...Problem with that is it is in the PAST Tense

- What about today? Who or what are you following? I think I’m following Jesus?

- Use this little test – This week use this little test to see if we are following Jesus - Just Look in front of YOU

2. Here is the alternative – V35

3. Here is the logic of making this choice – V36-37

Proverbs 13:7⁷ There is one who makes himself rich, yet has nothing; And one who makes himself poor, yet has great riches.

4. Here is the reality of Our Choice!

So – As the Worship Team comes up – We come back to the question Jesus asked His disciples

* He asks us today – Who do you say I am?

* Who is this Son of Man?