

STUDY FOUR MARK 7:24- 8:30

Investigate the geographical, cultural and religious situation Jesus and his disciples have travelled to.



Q1 What do the words and actions of the Syro-Phoenecian woman reveal about her?

Q2 What is Jesus meaning when speaking of children and 'little dogs'?

Q3 The woman understands Jesus' parable and replies with her own mini parable. What is she understanding?

The rest of this section has a common theme. Work it out as you go.

Q4 How do Jesus' actions in 7:31-36 show His empathy with the man? see Isaiah 35: 4-6,10.

Q5 Read Mark 8: 1-13. Why do you think Mark includes this second creation feeding miracle when he already has recorded the feeding of 5,000 in 6:30-44?

Q6 Focussing on verses 1-5, what do you see in Jesus' words and actions? If you were reading section of Mark with an unbeliever, what important details would you want them to see and understand? Then in verses 6-9 ?

Q7 What issues are so glaringly obvious in the Pharisees' testing of Jesus in 8:11-13?

Q8 After reading 8: 14-21, what theme do you see pervading this section of Mark?

Q 9 Be challenged- how *you too*, in certain areas of your life, like the disciples, are spiritually blind or failing to hear what God's Word is teaching you?

Q10 Jesus could easily have healed in one step. Mark doesn't explain why the miracle is purposefully performed in two stages? Why might Mark have placed it in this section of his gospel?

Q 11 Jesus often warns those He has healed NOT to tell anyone. Why?

see 3:12; 7:36-37; 8:26.

IF TIME, remember the disciple's exclamation in 1:35-39

Q 12 In Jesus' insistence in asking His disciples 'but what about YOU?', what is Jesus requiring of His disciples?

NOTES

For more understanding of the Jewish expectations of the coming Messiah, split up the following prophecies amongst the group:

Isaiah 51: 4-6

Isaiah 52: 7-10

Isaiah 63: 1-8

Prayer in Groups

-Come humbly before the Lord confessing your own spiritual blindness or deafness.

- Perhaps you have become like disciples, failing to see God's character or His provision and care. Perhaps you have developed stubborn hard heartedness like the Pharisees.

-What do you need to ask the Lord to help you obey?