

Sermon Discussion Questions | 9.10.17

Seeing Jesus More Clearly

Mark 1:1 & 8:22-33

1. This week Pastor Jim introduced the next book in our series, the gospel of Mark. He did an eye test of sorts to open the message. How did you do? If you were to try and explain Jesus to someone who wasn't familiar, how would you describe Him? How would you say you "see" Him?
2. The opening verse of the gospel of Mark was pretty direct and explained the purpose of the book very well. What was it? What did Pastor Jim say about it?
3. To explain how we would approach the book of Mark we looked at chapter 8, in which Jesus performs one of his miracles. Go back to Mark 8:22 and read the story. What was unique about it? What stood out about the way Jesus performed the miracle?
4. Pastor Jim pointed out that Jesus had a reason, a purpose for how he healed the man. He pointed out that there was a reason or purpose as to why Mark included this story in his gospel when no other gospel mentioned it. What was it?
5. When Peter rightfully identifies Jesus as the Messiah, Jesus instructs him to not tell anyone. There are several other instances in the gospel of Mark in which this takes place. Go back and re-read the following passage and discuss, why was Jesus doing this? What was he trying to accomplish by keeping His identity secret for a time?
 - a. Mark 1:34, 1:42-44, 3:11-12, 5:41-43, 7:35-36 and 9:9-10
6. Jesus is wanting to give the disciples and His followers a balanced, holistic view of who He is. What did Pastor Jim say about this? What did the first half of the gospel of Mark show us about Jesus that was different than the second half?
7. Throughout this year, God wants us to journey through Mark in order to experience two miracles: to have our spiritual eyes opened to who Jesus is, or if we already know Him as Savior, to see Him more clearly. To close, spend some time sharing how your view of Jesus has changed through your walk with Him. What have been some highlights or surprises along the way. Spend time praying and encouraging each other.