



JUST JESUS: A Journey Through Mark PART 24 - 7:31 - 37

Jesus' Long Way Around

READ: Mark 7:31 and Psalm 24:1

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Mark notes that Jesus deliberately takes a long, looping route through Gentile territory. Why do you think Mark wanted his readers to notice this unusual geography?
- 2) How does Psalm 24:1 ("The earth is the Lord's, and all it contains...") connect to Jesus traveling into Gentile lands?
- 3) Pastor G said, "Sometimes God takes us the long way around... not because He is lost, but because He is doing an intentional, deeper work in us." When have you felt like God took you "the long way around"? What did He teach you in that season?
- 4) If Jesus' steps claimed every piece of ground for God's kingdom, what would it look like for your daily steps to do the same — in your workplace, neighborhood, or home?

The Messianic Signs

READ: Mark 7:32 and Isaiah 35:5–6

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why do you think Mark uses such a rare Greek word for "mute" (mogilalon), one that directly echoes Isaiah's prophecy?
- 2) How does Isaiah 35 point us to the hope of the Messiah? In what ways does this miracle fulfill that hope?
- 3) Pastor G said, "This man represents every person who has ever been shut down, boxed out, unheard, and unable to speak." Who comes to your mind when you hear that? How might God be calling you to be a "faith-filled friend" for them?
- 4) How does this passage encourage us to believe that no one is beyond Jesus' reach, even those we may consider "outsiders"?

Jesus' Sigh

READ: Mark 7:33–34 and Romans 8:22–23

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why do you think Jesus takes this man aside privately instead of healing him in front of the crowd?
- 2) What does Jesus' deep sigh (estenaxen) reveal about His empathy and His heart for human suffering?
- 3) Pastor G said, "If Jesus sighed for him, He sighs for you too." How does that truth comfort you in your current struggles?
- 4) Paul writes in Romans 8 that all creation "groans." How do Jesus' sighs at Decapolis connect with the groaning of creation and the hope we share in Him?

Be Opened

READ: Mark 7:35–37 and Romans 10:9–17

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

- 1) Why is it significant that the man first hears, then speaks? How does that pattern reflect the process of discipleship?
- 2) In what ways does the crowd's reaction — "He has done all things well" — echo Genesis 1:31 and point to new creation in Christ?

- 3) Pastor G said, "Our ears have been opened, our tongues have been loosed. We have not been commanded to keep silent — quite the opposite!" How does that challenge you personally?
- 4) Romans 10 reminds us that "faith comes by hearing." Who helped open your ears to hear the gospel for the first time, and who in your life today needs to hear it from you?