

Understanding Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: “Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me.”
Psalms 51:10

DAY 1 MARK 7:1-23 — Teachings of Jesus

1. Read verses 1-8. How did Jesus answer the Pharisees? What did Jesus say they were doing?
2. Do you think you can look like you are close to God but actually be far away from Him? Explain.
3. Read verses 9-23. What does Jesus tell the crowd? vv. 14-15 How does Jesus further explain this? vv. 21-23
4. According to Jesus, what is essential to true worship? What are you allowing to shape your heart?

DAY 2 MARK 7:24-30 — The Faith of a Gentile Woman

5. A Gentile woman asked Jesus to cast out a demon from her daughter. Jesus indicates that the Jews (children) are his priority and likens Gentiles to “dogs.” Instead of being offended, how did the woman react? vv. 27-28

6. What did Jesus do for the Gentile woman? vv. 29-30
In what ways is this woman a model for us?

DAY 3 MARK 7:31-8:10 — Miracles of Jesus

7. Read verses 31-37. Why do you think Jesus used this seemingly odd technique to heal this man?
How did the crowd react?
8. Read verses 1-10. Instead of just feeding the four thousand, why do you think Jesus first calls the disciples together?
9. Have you ever overlooked an opportunity to serve someone because you doubted that God could use you to help him or her?

DAY 4 MARK 8:11-26 — Really Seeing Jesus

10. Read verses 11-12. What do they Pharisees want this time? Why do you think Jesus refuses them?
11. Read verses 14-21. What does Jesus mean by His mini-parable on yeast in verse 15? How did the disciples interpret Jesus' statement?

12. Lies and evil can easily corrupt others. What messages are in the media and even in your school that contradict who you are as God's child?

13. Read verses 22-26. How is this healing different from all the other healings? Why do you think He healed him this way?

DAY 5 MARK 7-8:26 — Wrap Up

14. What's one way you see modern-day Christians falling into the same trap as the Pharisees of Jesus' day?

15. We will never see the reality of what God is doing when we are constantly asking Him to prove Himself. What's one way God has shown Himself faithful this week? This month? This year?

TAKE AWAY

Take an inventory of what is in your heart. Ask God to help you change your inner thoughts and feelings that are not honoring to God.

BLESSING

Jesus will meet all your needs! We have a responsibility to obey His commands even when we don't know why and trust that He has a good reason for them.

