

The Gospel of Mark

Teacher: Connie Stampfl



Mark Chapters 8:1-9:13

Day 27: Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand Mark 8:1-10; Matt. 15:29-38

- **Crowd:** Gentiles hungry for his teaching, needs satisfied: Matt. 6:11
- **Disciples:** Slow to learn that Jesus provides
- **Jesus:** Living Bread for all, including Gentiles: John 6:47-51

Assignment: Study above verses and compare this miracle with the Feeding of the Five Thousand in Mark 6:30-44. How does Jesus fully meet your physical and spiritual needs?

Day 28: Pharisees Demand Sign, Warning about their Leaven Mark 8:11-21; Ex. 12:8, 15-20; Matt. 12:38-42, 16:5-12

- **Sign from Heaven:** *semeion*: event authenticating word/action from God
- **This generation:** crooked, hearts astray: Duet. 32:5, 20; Ps. 95:10
- **Leaven:** metaphor of an invisible, pervasive influence, often of sin
- **Leaven of Pharisees:** Their teaching, hypocrisy, pride, self-righteousness, malice: Lk. 12:1; 1 Cor. 5:6-8; Gal. 5:9
- **Leaven of Herod:** skepticism, immorality, worldliness: Mark 6:14-29
- **Disciples do not yet understand:** "Problem" of only one loaf yet Jesus is with them, slow heart response to Jesus' words and deeds

Assignment: Read above verses. How like the disciples have you been slow to catch on to Jesus and his purpose for your life?

Day 29: Jesus Heals a Blind Man, Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ Mark 8:22-30; Matt. 16:13-20

- **Do you see anything?** Mark 8:31-37; Jer. 5:21; Ezek. 12:2; sight is metaphor for understanding: Eph. 1:18
- **Who do people say that I am?** Deut. 18:15-18; Mal. 4:5-6
- **Who do you say that I am?** 2 Sam. 7:14-16; Ps. 2; Jer. 23:5-6

Assignment: Consider the importance of "seeing" who Jesus is. Why is the most important question of all time, Jesus' inquiry: "Who do you say that I am?"

Day 30: Son of Man Must Suffer Mark 8:31-9:1; Lk. 9:18-27

- **Son of Man:** Coming King is exalted, divine, and human: Dan. 7:13-14
- **Jesus must die and be raised again:** Messiah is also Suffering Servant: Isa. 53:1-12
- **Set your mind on the things of God:** Jesus' and disciples' path of suffering and sacrifice before glorification
- **Deny himself, take up his cross, follow me, lose his life:** Ps. 49:6-9, 16-20; Rom. 8:16-17

Assignment: Consider how Jesus' crucifixion and resurrection are the final test and proof of his claims and authority. What characterizes a life of sacrificial discipleship for a follower of Jesus?