

WHAT FAITH LOOKS LIKE FOR MOMS (AND THE REST OF US, TOO)

MARK 8:11-21

CHURCH GROUP SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS — MAY 8, 2022

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 8:11-21 ESV

11 The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him. 12 And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Truly, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation." 13 And he left them, got into the boat again, and went to the other side. 14 Now they had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. 15 And he cautioned them, saying, "Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod." 16 And they began discussing with one another the fact that they had no bread. 17 And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? 18 Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember? 19 When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" They said to him, "Twelve." 20 "And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" And they said to him, "Seven." 21 And he said to them, "Do you not yet understand?"

SERMON RECAP

Key Points For Us Today

What faith looks like:

1. Faith trusts what Jesus will do instead of demanding what we think Jesus must do.
2. Faith remembers what Jesus has done.
3. Faith realizes who Jesus is.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What does the passage say?

Read Mark 8:11-21 aloud as a group and take some time to let group members share observations about the passage. Try not to move into interpretation of the passage or application of what you have read quite yet. Simply share what you all observe from the text.

1. Identify the setting, characters, conflict, climax and resolution of the narrative.
2. Review the context of the passage. What is happening before and after the passage?
3. Review parallel passages and cross-references to better understand the passage. For today's passage, review Matthew 16:1-12.
4. How would you summarize this passage in your own words?

What does the passage mean?

1. The Pharisees argued with Jesus and tested Him (Mark 8:11; cf. Matthew 16:1). What does 'testing the Lord' mean (cf. John 8:6)?
2. Recall Jesus' description of the Pharisees' hearts (Mark 7:6-9; cf. Mark 7:14-23), and consider His response to them in Mark 8:12-13 (cf. Matthew 16:2-4). Why might Jesus have responded to the Pharisees as He did?



3. Recall those who were in need in previous passages (e.g., the man with an unclean spirit (Mark 5:1-8); the woman with the issue (Mark 5:33-34); the Syrophenician woman (Mark 7:25-29); a deaf man (Mark 7:31-34)). What was the posture of these people's hearts before Jesus? Compare Jesus' response to them with His response to the Pharisees in Mark 8:12-13. What might His differing responses reveal about His character and heart?
4. Considering the narrative and its context, what is the ultimate meaning and significance of this passage?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

How can we apply this passage to our lives?

1. The Pharisees tested Jesus. In contrast, faith trusts what Jesus will do instead of demanding what we think Jesus must do. Generally speaking, what does it look like to 'test the Lord' today? How can a lack of trust in God lead to arguing with and testing Him? How does this resistance to the LORD impact our walk with Him?
2. In your own life, where might you be testing (rather than trusting) the Lord? What is God calling you to trust Him with today? What Scriptural verse or passage might you meditate on this week to encourage your trust in the LORD?
3. Faith remembers what Jesus has done. Recall a specific time when the LORD proved Himself good, faithful and true in your life. As appropriate, share your story with your Church Group. This week, set aside time to focus on the LORD, reflect and meditate on what He has done, and praise Him for Who He is.
4. Faith realizes who Jesus is. What names and/or Scriptural images of the LORD mean the most to you, and why? Share with your Church Group how these names and images encourage your trust in and walk with the LORD.

LEADER NOTES

There are exciting mission trip opportunities this summer, and application deadlines are coming soon. Please share the information below with your Church Group.

- [Mission Trips Open for Applications](#)
- [Short-Term Trip FAQ](#)
- [Short-Term Trip COVID Travel FAQ](#)
- [Global Outreach 2022 Prayer Guide](#)