

Mark 8:14-26

1. Hinge between Galilee ministry and announcing the suffering servant.
 - a. First 1:14-8:21 – Jesus ministry in Galilee introducing himself as Messiah and doing signs that he was the Messiah who would inaugurate the Kingdom of God
 - b. Second 8:22-10:52 – Jesus the Messiah must first suffer for the sins of the world before he can bring his kingdom to earth.
2. These verses are a transition:
 - a. Middle section 8:1-30 is sandwiched by:
 - i. the deaf-mute man in 7:31-37
 - ii. the blind man of 8:22-26
3. Both accounts of the deaf-mute man (7:31-37) and the blind man (8:22-26) illustrate spiritual deafness and blindness that Jesus can heal:
 - a. First, the Pharisees and leaders
 - b. Second, the Disciples
4. Failure to understand leads to hardness of heart
 - a. There must be teaching, hearing and understanding. It is a process.
 - b. An ignorant heart cannot harden itself. Only a heart that knows can harden itself – the Pharisees and the disciples
 - c. No understanding equals no faith...no faith leads to hardness of heart.
 - d. Same, blind faith is not understanding faith...blind faith will lead to disillusion and hardness of heart
 - e. Jesus wants faith based in understanding and insight.
 - f. The disciples are rebuked for not understanding.
 - g. The pharisees are rebuked for having hard hearts.
5. Three times Jesus announces his coming death as the suffering servant.

Jesus Announces Death	Disciples Response	Jesus Continues to Teach
8:31 -	8:32-33 – Peter Rebukes Jesus	8:33-9:1 – Deny yourselves
9:30-31	9:32 – Disciples Do Not Understand and Do Not Ask	9:33-50 – First must be last
10:33-34	10:35-37 – James and John ask for places in the Kingdom	10:38-45 – Greatness is to become a servant; Jesus came to give his life as a ransom

8:14-21 –

“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?”

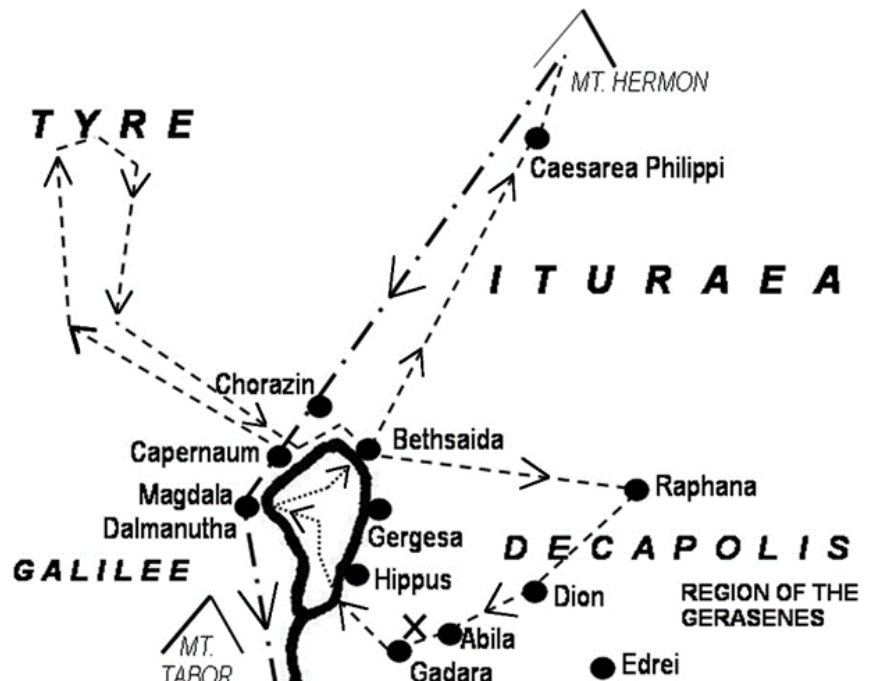
1. 8:18 – Eyes and ears – connect miracles to the disciple’s spiritual condition.

- a. ears – 7:31-35
 - b. eyes – 8:22-26
2. Prophets:
- a. Jeremiah 5:21 –
 - b. Ezekiel 12:2
 - c. Isaiah 6:9
3. “Leaven”
- a. Mark does not explain the metaphor
 - b. Luke 12:2 calls it hypocrisy
 - c. Matthew 16:12 calls it the teaching
4. What do the Pharisees and Herod Antipas have in common?
- a. Neither understand Jesus.
 - b. Both seek signs
5. Questions:
- a. Five rhetorical
 - b. Emphasizing lack of spiritual insight: “Do you not yet comprehend?”
 - c. Third – failure to understand results in ignorance and hardness and turning away
 - d. Fourth - “Do you have eyes that cannot see and ears that cannot hear
 - e. Fifth – Do you remember? Recalling previous teaching and demonstration
 - f. FINAL – seeks answers to historical questions how many leftovers after listing:
 - i. Number of people
 - ii. Number of loaves
 - iii. Specific Greek word for basket in both stories: *kophinos* and *spuris*
6. Pharisees are met with a pronouncement, but the disciples are met with questions which include, “Do you NOT YET understand.”

8:22-26 –

“And they came to Bethsaida. And some people brought to him a blind man and begged him to touch him. 23 And he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, “Do you see anything?” 24 And he looked up and said, “I see people, but they look like trees, walking.” 25 Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. 26 And he sent him to his home, saying, “Do not even enter the village.”

- 1. 8:22-26 has nine terms related to sight
- 2. “people...begged”
- 3. Took him outside the village to heal the man and give disciples a sign without creating an uprising to attempt to make



Jesus king. Jesus was on his way to announce his crucifixion.

4. Two stage healing?
 - a. Demonstrate Jesus' power?
 - b. Illustrate gradual illumination of Jesus and his ministry
 - i. People's view compared to Peter's
 - ii. Peter's view now compared with Peter's view later.
5. "Looking up" can mean "seeing again" as in "the man's sight began to come back"

8:27-30 –

"And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" 28 And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." 29 And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." 30 And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.

8:31-33 –

"And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. 32 And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 33 But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

8:34-38 – **"And calling the crowd to him with his disciples, he said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 35 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. 36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? 37 For what can a man give in return for his soul? 38 For whoever is ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of him will the Son of Man also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels."**