

WELL DONE

MARK 7:31-37

Text:

Introduction:

The passage opens with Jesus leaving the Gentile cities of Tyre and Sidon headed back to Galilee. But, Jesus and His men do not go straight back to Jewish country. Verse 31 tells us that they went to “Decapolis”.

If you look at where they were and where they were headed to, you would see that Jesus and His men took the long way around.

Why you may ask?

We can only speculate, but I would imagine that He was teaching them and training them for the difficult days ahead. When He and His men return, Jesus finds Himself under increasing attack by the Jews. This will be one of the last opportunities that He will have to be alone with His men before He goes to Calvary to die.

It is also interesting that Jesus goes to Decapolis. If you will remember, the people of that region had asked Jesus to leave their country, Mark 5:17. Jesus had cast a legion of demons out of the Gaderene Demoniac.

Those demons had entered into a herd of swine and the pigs had all drowned. The people of Decapolis had rejected Jesus and forced Him to leave.

Now He returns and they receive Him with open arms. Why the change? What made the difference? The answer can be found in Mark 5:19-20.

Mark 5:19-20

¹⁹ Howbeit Jesus suffered him not, but saith unto him, Go home to thy friends, and tell them how great things the Lord hath done for thee, and hath had compassion on thee. ²⁰ And he departed, and began to publish in Decapolis how great things Jesus had done for him: and all *men* did marvel.

That redeemed demoniac went home and told everyone he met what Jesus had done for him. He was such an effective witness that the people were eager for Jesus to come back to town, and when He did, they embraced Him. What a lesson for those who know the Lord. We should be in the business of magnifying Him!

In this passage, Jesus comes to Decapolis and the people bring a deaf man to Jesus for healing. Jesus heals this poor man and the crowds marveled. They saw His power and they were amazed. They said, "He hath done all things well."

Notice:

1. THE MAN AND HIS CONDITION (VS. 32)

Mark 7:32

³² And they bring unto him one that was deaf, and had an impediment in his speech; and they beseech him to put his hand upon him.

A. He was handicapped – He could not hear nor could he speak

B. He was helped by some who cared

2. THE MASTER AND HIS CURE (VS. 33-35)

Mark 7:33-35

³³ And he took him aside from the multitude, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spit, and touched his tongue; ³⁴ And looking up to heaven, he sighed, and saith unto him, Ephphatha, that is, Be opened. ³⁵ And straightway his ears were opened, and the string of his tongue was loosed, and he spake plain.

The people bring this poor man to Jesus and He does a great work in the man's life. I want to take a few minutes to watch how Jesus ministered to this man.

The first thing I notice is that Jesus "took him aside". The crowd expected Jesus to just touch him right there and heal him.

But, Jesus is a gentleman! He does not embarrass the man more than he already is. This man is deaf! He probably has no idea what is going on.

The deaf will tell you that their affliction makes them a special class of people. Blindness and most other physical handicaps can be seen by others, and those who see the handicap make special allowance for the handicapped person. But, you can't see that a person is deaf! Often people will grow impatient with a deaf person because they are having trouble understanding something. Sometimes people treat the deaf like they are less intelligent than others just because they cannot hear.

The Lord refuses to make a spectacle of this man. He takes him aside and does a great work in his life. By taking him aside, Jesus is saying, "you are more than a problem, you are an individual and you are important to me! I care about you!"

After touching him, Jesus looks toward Heaven. This act served two purposes. First, it told the deaf man where the healing was coming from. Jesus was looking to His Father and He was telling this man, via sign language, that his healing was coming from above.

After looking toward Heaven, Jesus "sighed". This word means "to groan". The deaf man could not hear the sigh, but he could see Jesus when He did it and it spoke volume to him. The sigh said "I care about you and what you are going through!"

Illustration:

One day a little boy came home from school and he looked rather sad. His mother said, “Honey, is everything all right?”

He said, “Well, I guess so. But, Billy came to school today and told the class that his daddy had died. They just buried his daddy yesterday, mama.”

Then he said, “Mama, Billy was so upset about his daddy dying that he just cried and cried.”

His mother said, “Well, what did you do?”

He said, “I just laid my head on my desk and cried with him!”

That is the kind of heart that the Lord had, and that is the kind of heart that we need!

3. THE MULTITUDE AND THEIR CONFESSION (vs. 36-37)

Mark 7:36-37

³⁶ And he charged them that they should tell no man: but the more he charged them, so much the more a great deal they published *it*;

³⁷ And were beyond measure astonished, saying, He hath done all things well: he maketh both the deaf to hear, and the dumb to speak.

The Bible tells us that these people were “beyond measure astonished”. What they saw Jesus do was more than their minds could comprehend. It left them

with their mouths hanging open in amazement. They summed up what they felt about Jesus by saying, “He hath done all things well!”

That statement was a statement of faith. They looked at all they knew about Jesus and they voiced their approval of Him and His ministry. They considered His miracles and His ministry and they said, “He hath done all things well!”

Close:

The man in this text met Jesus that day and his life was never the same again. Meeting Jesus changed everything forever for this man. He can do the same thing for any person who will come to Him today! Why? He does all things well!

“All” is a mighty big word! It covers a lot of territory. He does all things well.