



ST. FRANCIS
IN THE FIELDS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Tuesday Bible Study

Week 7

Mark 7

October 25, 2022

1. The root of the word “hypocrite” comes from Greek drama and means “to play a part.” Have you ever discovered that you were “playing a part” or pretending to be something you were not?
 - a. How does Christ challenge our tendency to be “hypocrites”?

2. How do we talk about our hearts in modern culture? What do phrases like “Follow your heart” “Know in your heart” and “Give your heart” mean? What do they emphasize
 - a. In Mark 7:21, Jesus warns that the human heart is the source of evil desires. How does this challenge our modern understanding of the heart?

 - b. How do you think scripture calls us to address the good and bad that is within the human heart?

3. Bonus: Read the story of Elijah and the widow at Zarephath in 1 Kings 17:8-24. What similarities do you notice between this story, and the story of the Syrophenician woman in Mark 7:24-30?

4. What is the most surprising or unsettling thing about Jesus' interaction with the Syrophenician woman in Mark 7:24-30? What is the most inspiring or hopeful thing?
 - a. Have you ever been "bested" in a conversation or discussion when you were sure you were right, and realized you'd been wrong?

 - b. What does the story of the Syrophenician woman have to teach us about who tells the truth and how we can hear it?

5. What makes the story of the healing of the deaf man in Sidon (Mark 7:31-37) different from other healing stories in Mark?

6. What do Jesus' interactions with Gentiles tell us about what kind of Messiah he is? What do they suggest to us about the mission of the church, even today?