



ST. FRANCIS
IN THE FIELDS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Tuesday Bible Study

Week 8

Mark 8:1-26

November 1, 2022

1. Compare the feeding of the 4,000 in Mark 8:1-10 with the feeding of the 5,000 in Mark 6:30-44. Make two lists: one which describes what the narratives have in common, and one that lists the ways they are different.

2. Have you ever been truly physically hungry? What might make the metaphor of “hunger” for God’s word or being “fed” by God’s word work for so many people?
 - a. How is a spiritual hunger for God and His word similar to (or different from) physical hunger?

3. Have you ever demanded a “sign” from God in order to confirm your faith or in order to know what to do? How does Jesus’ response to the Pharisees in Mark 8:11-13 challenge this tendency?

4. Review the discussion of evil in the human heart from last week (Mark 7:17-23). What connections do you see between this section and Jesus’ criticism of the disciples’ hardness of heart in Mark 8:17?

5. Bonus: Read Jeremiah 5. How does reading the whole passage change how you understand Jesus quoting Jeremiah 5:21 in Mark 8:18?

6. What do you think Jesus wants the disciples to understand about the loaves? What are they missing about these miracles?

7. Write down some ways that the healing of the blind man in Mark 8:22-26 are different from earlier healing narratives. What do you think Mark is trying to emphasize here?

8. Has there ever been a time when you have come to see something clearly only gradually? How is the experience spiritually different than a sudden revelation?

9. Why do you think Jesus warns the blind man not to go back into the village in Mark 8:26? (No right or wrong answer!)

10. In what way has your life in Christ been like a journey? How has your faith changed as you've walked "the way" with God?