

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER - PRAY

In our **Last msg** – **Jesus** went to “**Unaccepted-ville**”

to **teach** the **critical lesson** -

The **Unaccepted are Accepted** – In **Christ**

& at **the end of** that **msg** – I **mentioned 2** other **miracles**

Jesus performed in the **Unaccepted Gentile Territories**

Today – we **look** at the **first** of those 2 Miracles

& the **Message** from Jesus today is –

Jesus will MEET you – **Right Where You're AT**

Let's Pray

Let's **set the stage** today – in

Mark 7:31 (NLT)

31 Jesus left Tyre (last msg) and went up to Sidon before going back to the Sea of Galilee and the region of the Ten Towns. (The Greek Decapolis)

Jesus is making a big **Horse-shoe LOOP** - **up** the **coast**
across the **Golon** Heights – **into** the **Decapolis**

& either in Sidon

or after he made his way - to The Decapolis

A certain deaf man was brought to him

We meet him in Mark 7:32 (NLT)

32 A deaf man with a speech impediment was brought to him, and the people begged Jesus to lay his hands on the man to heal him.

This man could NOT Hear – & He basically could NOT Speak
(the word used here means “Hardly Able to Speak”)

But – he did have people who loved him

& those people brought him to Jesus

& Begged Jesus to lay his hands on him & heal him

& there is a great picture developing here

of the Compassion & Grace

that Jesus has - to those in need

& the Lord wants you to Know TODAY

WHOEVER you ARE – WHATEVER Your NEED

Jesus wants to Meet you – Right Where You're AT

**Mark is going to describe the healing of this man
in VIVID DETAIL**

**& - if we will look carefully – at these DETAILS
We will be able to SEE**

Just HOW committed Jesus is

to Meeting People - PERSONALLY & INDIVIDUALLY

God KNOWS YOU

He **KNOWS** what you **NEED** today

He **KNOWS** where you're **AT**

He **WANTS** to **MEET YOU** – **Right Where You're AT**

So – **let's read thru** the **unique healing** of this **man**

& then we'll come back

& look closely at the Details

Again – V.32 says – This DEAF Man

Who was Hardly Able to Speak

Was **brought** to **Jesus** –

with the people begging Jesus to heal him

& then we read – in Mark 7:33–35 (NLT)

33 Jesus led him away from the crowd so they could be alone. He put his fingers into the man's ears. Then, spitting on his own fingers, he touched the man's tongue.

34 Looking up to heaven, he sighed and said, “Ephphatha,” (Ef-Fa-Tha) which means, “Be opened!”

35 Instantly the man could hear perfectly, and his tongue was freed so he could speak plainly!

SEEMS like quite an elaborate procedure – Doesn't it for Jesus to bring a miracle to this man?

Jesus didn't NEED to do ANY of this - to Heal this man

So - maybe he was trying to get something across to HIM - & to US - in these details

What TRUTHS might Jesus be teaching to this MAN – to his DISCIPLES - & to US?

Lets Look at it closely

FIRST – V.33 says - *Jesus led [this man] away from the crowd so they could be alone*.

That's a great lesson to start – isn't it? – for the man - & for us

Good things start to happen with Jesus when we GET ALONE with him

Jesus DIDN'T want the HYPE of the Crowd
he wanted to be ALONE with this man

so he could SPEAK to him – Personally
& HEAL him – Personally – Individually

& that's how Jesus wants US

He wants us to come to him
PERSONALLY - & INDIVIDUALLY

He is a PERSONAL SAVIOR – a PERSONAL HEALER

**Jesus is not interested in SWINGING his JACKET
& BLOWING into a MICROPHONE to heal 100 people at a time**

Jesus wants to SAVE YOU - & HEAL you
Personally, & Individually

Now – remember – this man was DEAF

So - Jesus Couldn't SPEAK to him - Audibly
But he Can COMMUNICATE with him – in a Personal way

& so – Jesus is going to
“Meet This Man Where He's At”

to BRING Him – to HEALING - & to FAITH - in Who Jesus is

V. 33 continues - . . . ***[Jesus] put his fingers into the man's ears.
Then, spitting on his own fingers, he touched the man's tongue.***

Jesus is Speaking This Man's Language

He's **Communicating Intimately** with him

As he reaches up

& **puts his fingers in this man's ears**

the **man SENSES** Jesus **saying** – “*I'm going to heal your ears*”

& - **as Jesus touches the man's tongue**

the **man SENSES** Jesus **saying** – “*I'm going to heal your tongue*”

You **might think** this **seems** like a **crazy way** to **HEAL**

But - **Jesus** – is **Meeting** this **Man** – **Right Where He's At**

& His **ACTIONS** – were **speaking LOUDLY** to this **man**

Tho he could **not HEAR** or **SPEAK**

this man **understood exactly** what **Jesus was doing**

& **he know** - The **healing touch** of **Jesus** – **was coming**

Can you **SEE yourself** there?

Away from **the crowds** – In the **Presence of Jesus**

& **Jesus COMMUNICATING HEALING** to you
in **just** the **way - you need to hear it?**

& **Can WE - ALLOW Jesus to do that?**

Can we come into **his Presence** –

& **Trust Jesus** – to **Meet Us** – **Right Where we're AT?**

& **Bring Healing** – in **Just** the **way We Need it?**

Our God is a **PERSONAL GOD**

He **created** you **PERSONALLY** & **INDIVIDUALLY**

He knows you – **Better** than **you know yourself**

& - **if you** will **Come to Him** -

He will **Meet you** – **Right Where you're AT**

& he will **Bring Salvation** - & **Healing** – **Into** your **Life**

In a **Personal & Individual WAY**

& - just one more thing – in V.33
the SALIVA is interesting – Isn't it?

In v.33 - Where it says – Jesus spit on his own fingers, then touched the man's tongue

Listen – if you think this is WEIRD

then there's a pretty good chance –
you didn't live in the Middle East - in the 1st Century

Because – THEN - & THERE – Saliva (from HEALTHY people)
was thought to have Medicinal Properties

& so - Sometimes when God MEETS a Person
"Where They're AT" (like with the saliva)

We might tend to Question God – or Question the Person -
& we should be Very Careful Doing that

But Listen Please - I'm NOT SAYING God Communicates
CONTRARY to His Word – at ANY TIME - or to ANY PERSON

But – I am saying God speaks to us – PERSONALLY
& he Meets US – Right Where We're AT

Never Contrary – or Against His Word
But always PERSONALLY - INDIVIDUALLY

& this "Personal Knowledge" connects to the Next Vs.

V.24 – where it says - Looking up to heaven, [Jesus] sighed

This is a word for a VISIBLE SIGH

Jesus LOOKS to Heaven – Because this man
can't HEAR Jesus speak to the father (so Jesus motions up)

& then Jesus lets out a VISIBLE SIGH – so that this man
can Sense the Compassion - Jesus has for him

He knows - Jesus has just made - a REQUEST of HEAVEN
& he knows - Jesus is HURTING for HIM

& He KNOWS – that Jesus – for some unknown reason
LOVES him very much - & HURTS with him

Do WE know that?

Do we KNOW – that Jesus knows us SO WELL
That he will MEET US Where We're AT

& that he will take ahold of our lives
& IMPLORE Heaven on our behalf
& that he HURTS With US

Do WE know that?

& so Then – Finally – Jesus SPEAKS

V.34 says . . . and [Jesus] said, “Ephphatha,” (Ef-Fa-Tha) which means, “Be opened!”

Wait a minute – WHY would Jesus speak NOW

after Communicating to this man – by his ACTIONS

WHY would Jesus - Now choose to SPEAK Verbally

Because NOW – this man can HEAR PERFECTLY

& - the FIRST Word this man hears

in his Own Language – was (Ef-Fa-Tha) - “Be opened!”

The FIRST Word this man HEARD

was HIS Personal Word of HEALING - (Ef-Fa-Tha)

& V.35 says *Instantly the man could hear perfectly, and his tongue was freed so he could speak plainly!*

But - Who says there was MORE

than just a PHYSICAL HEALING – Happening Here?

Yeah – MUCH MORE happened

than just a Physical Healing

This man has MET The SON of GOD - The Great Physician

& not only would the rest of his life be CHANGED
but his Eternity would NOW be CHANGED

Jesus had compassion on this man for Healing – but he was
much more concerned about him Spiritually, Eternally

Jesus MET this man - Right Where He Was At

& he HEALED him in a way
that we can ASSUME – Brought this man to Faith in Christ

& then – we read in Mark 7:36 (NLT)

36 Jesus told the crowd not to tell anyone, but the more he told them not to, the more they spread the news.

Matthew speaks of a Great Crowd

that gathered around Jesus at this time – in Mat 15:30

In Matthew it says this Crowd brought more & more
Hurting people to Jesus - & Jesus healed them all

& Matthew 15:31 says (NLT)

31 The crowd was amazed! Those who hadn't been able to speak were talking, the crippled were made well, the lame were walking, and the blind could see again! And they praised the God of Israel.

& We'll MEET This Gentile Crowd – IN our Text NEXT WEEK

But - Today's FINAL Lesson

is in the last vs of Today's Text

Notice - Those who brought this man to Jesus

were **DEEPLY MOVED** - by what **Jesus** had **done**

Mark 7:37 (NLT)

37 They were completely amazed and said again and again, "Everything he does is wonderful. He even makes the deaf to hear and gives speech to those who cannot speak."

They were Completely Amazed

I wonder – For **those of us** who **KNOW Jesus** today

Are WE - Completely Amazed?

Do we RECOGNIZE? – Do we REMEMBER?

How Jesus Came to US ?

How he **Met US** – **Right Where We Were AT?**

How he **Brought HEALING** into our **Lives?**

How he **Drew FAITH** out of us – **for Salvation?**

& can we say – with those in Mark 7:37 (NLT) → →

& can we say – with Mark 7:37 (NLT)
37 . . . Everything he does is wonderful . . .

The ESV says here - *He has done all things well*

If you Belong to Jesus today

He FOUND you – Right Where You Were AT
& He **Brought** - **Healing & Salvation** into **your life**

& **He has had** - **his Hand** on **Your Life**
all of your days

He has **Never Left You** - **Nor Forsaken you**
& he **NEVER WILL**

& if you have **NOT HAD** that **moment**

of **Meeting Jesus** - & **putting** your **Faith in Him**
for **Salvation** - & for **Healing**

Jesus is WAITING

He's Waiting to **Meet you**
RIGHT Where You ARE AT

& **He's waiting** to bring **Healing & Salvation** - into **your life**

Before we pray together today

I'd like to PRAY Psalm 139 – For you

This is Psalm 139 – paraphrased into My Personal Prayer

Again – this is a Paraphrase of Psalm 139

Written as My Prayer to God

& I would encourage you to Pray it with me

We'll put it up on the wall - & you follow me thru this prayer

& Please – HEAR God speaking to you - Personally

Praying Psalm 139

1 O Lord, you know everything about me.

2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you know my thoughts even when I'm far away.

3 You see my path, Lord and you are aware of everything I do.

4 Before a word is on my tongue, you know exactly what I'm going to say. You know me, Lord, better than I know myself.

5 You go before me and you follow behind me. You hem me in on all sides. And you place your hand of blessing on my head.

6 Your knowledge and care for me is too wonderful to grasp; it's too great for me to understand.

7 There's no place I can go, that you are not there with me.

8-9 No matter how low I sink, no matter how high I rise, you are there!

10 Your hand is leading and guiding me, and your strength is holding me and protecting me.

11-12 Even If I ask the darkness to cover me, it cannot hide me from you. Because you see me and know me wherever I am.

13 Lord, you made me, you knit me together in my mother's womb.

14 & so, I will praise you because I am fearfully and wonderfully made, by you! And Lord, your work in my life is wonderful and it is good; my heart knows that well.

15 My life was not hidden from you, since the moment I was created.

16 Your eyes were upon me, even before I was born. Every day of my life was recorded by you, every moment laid out before you, before a single day had passed.

17 And how precious are your thoughts about me, Lord. They can't even be numbered!

18 Most importantly, when I wake up each day, I am still with you.

...

23 Search me, God, and know my heart! Know my anxious thoughts!

24 & Lord, please point out anything in me that offends you, and continue to lead me on the path of everlasting life!

The Lord who Created you in your mother's womb

He knows you – better than you know yourself

He's been with you – in every high & every low

& He wants to MEET YOU – Right Where You're At

Let's Pray