

# JOURNEY together



**Current Series:**

**“The Gospel According to Mark”**

**Disciples  
growing together  
in small groups**

# The Gospel According to Mark

1 Mark 1-2

2 Mark 3-4

3 Mark 5-6

**4 Mark 7-8**

5 Mark 9-10

6 Mark 11-12

7 Mark 13-14

8 Mark 15-16

# Step 1: GET REAL

**What** are you thankful for from the past week?

**What** struggles did you face this past week?

**What** can you share from your personal Bible reading?

**What** are your thoughts from Mark 7-8?

# Step 2: GET FED, page 1

## Text: Mark 7-8

### 7:1-23

- Why were the Pharisees so upset that Jesus' disciples did not ceremonially wash their hands?
- Usually we think of "others" as putting human traditions above God's Word; do you think that's what they set out to do? If not, then how do you think it happened?
- What safeguards should we follow to insure that we don't make the same sort of mistakes?

### 7:24-31

- Were you surprised when Jesus effectively called the Gentile woman and her daughter, "dogs" (i.e., pet dogs)? If so, why?
- What about the woman's reply motivated Jesus to grant her request? Also see Matt. 15:24-28.

### 7:31-37

- Why do you think the people completely disregarded Jesus' instructions to not tell anyone about the miracle?

### 8:1-13

- Given that Jesus had *already fed even a larger crowd*, (Mark 6:30f.), why didn't his disciples "get it"?

### 8:14-21

- Why were his own disciples (apostles) so slow to realize who Jesus is?
- Have there been times in your life when your faith was slow like theirs? If yes, please share about some of those times.

# Step 2: GET FED, page 2

## Text: Mark 7-8

### 8:22-26

● At first, Jesus only partially healed the blind man. Though his vision was better; it was still quite blurry. Read vs. 17-18 again, in light of this healing. In what ways does this dramatic parable of healing the blind man illustrate how the disciples were struggling to see clearly who Jesus actually is? Do you think that your / our vision of Jesus is still blurry?

### 8:27-30

● Peter (by inspiration, Matt. 16:17) clearly sees that Jesus is the Messiah (the son of God). How is it that Peter knows Jesus *here*, but will soon deny knowing him at all (Mark 14:66f)? What keeps us from having consistently clear vision about Jesus?

### 8:31-37

● Jesus rebukes Peter for placing man's desires over God's. Describe just how serious this error is and talk about ways that we sometimes might make the same mistake, as Peter did.

● How do we go about losing our lives? ● What does it really mean to take up our cross?

# Step 3: GET ACTIVE

- *First, list 1 or 2 specific areas in which your spiritual vision is possibly blurred. Second, lay out your plan of action for more clearly seeing Jesus.*
- *Read Mark 9-10, discuss it with your family, and be ready to share your thoughts next time:*