

the unexpected.

what's with miracles?

"THE UNEXPECTED" WEEK 6 NOTES **MAY 14**

KEY THOUGHTS

- Question for today: Can I "kind of" be healed?
- Mark 8:22-26 is healing of another blind man, significantly different from blind Bartimaeus from last week. This is the only miracle recorded in Scripture that was "progressive" – took multiple steps/stages.
- The differences between healing of this man and healing of Bartimaeus:
 - The initiator: Bartimaeus cried out to Jesus, but this man was brought to Jesus
 - The faith-ful: Bartimaeus' faith v. this man's friend's faith
 - The appearance of "certainty": Jesus just told Bartimaeus he was healed, but He asked this man if he could see
 - The process: Jesus did nothing, just declared Bartimaeus could see, but He spit directly in this man's eyes, then touched him
 - The effect: Bartimaeus was instantly healed, this man needed "2 touches"
- Why the "2 touches". If this story would simply have said that Jesus healed him, it would be totally accurate. Why did Mark include this detail?
- What we learn from the "healing of two touches":
 - 1. Every touch of Jesus is better. If Jesus had stopped after the first touch, this man would still have a remarkably better life. And if the recording of this miracle had simply been that Jesus spit in his eyes, touched him, and he was healed, that would have been accurate.
 - 2. Every work of Jesus is progressive. Even salvation progresses. This story is a reminder that God still has work to do, until the day that the "not yet" things of the Lord become "already."
- We close with the reminder that great faith in the miracle-working God means:
 - He knows.
 - Trust Him.
 - It's His story, to tell as He chooses.

SCRIPTURES

Mark 8:22-26



PRACTICAL & REFLECTION

- What discomfort am I willing to go through in order for God to do what He wants in my life? Am I halting God's best because I'm too uncomfortable?
- Is the Lord's work in my life progressing, moving onward, taking further steps.