

CAN'T SEE. CAN'T SPEAK.

MARK 7:31-37

I. Jesus Journeys Through Decapolis.

**Mark 7:31 And again,
departing from the coasts of
Tyre and Sidon, he came unto
the sea of Galilee, through the
midst of the coasts of
Decapolis.**

**II. The Deaf and Mute Man is
Brought to Jesus.**

Mark 7:32 And they bring unto him one that was deaf, and had an impediment in his speech; and they beseech him to put his hand upon him.

III. The Unique Healing.

Mark 7:33 And he took him
aside from the multitude, and
put his fingers into his ears,
and he spit, and touched his
tongue;

Mark 7:34 And looking up to
heaven, he sighed, and saith
unto him, Ephphatha, that is,
Be opened.

“In healing this man, Jesus used sign language and symbolic acts (which Mark did not explain) that uniquely suited the man’s needs and caused him to exercise faith. Jesus took him aside privately (cf. 6:32) in order to communicate one-to-one with him apart from the crowd.

“By touching his ears and tongue, spitting (on the ground) and looking up to heaven (to God; cf. 6:41), Jesus conveyed what He was going to do.

His deep sigh may have reflected compassion for the man but it was likely Jesus’ strong emotion as He battled the satanic powers that enslaved the suffering man.

“Then Jesus gave the Aramaic command Ephphatha! meaning Be opened! (lit., “be completely opened”) This word could easily be lip-read by a deaf person. This Aramaic word may indicate that the man was not a Gentile.”

Grassmick, J. D. (1985). Mark. In J. F. Walvoord & R. B. Zuck (Eds.), The Bible Knowledge Commentary: An Exposition of the Scriptures (Vol. 2, p. 136). Wheaton, IL: Victor Books.

Mark 7:35 And straightway his ears were opened, and the string of his tongue was loosed, and he spake plain.

IV. Spiritual Disabilities.

Mark 8:17-21 And when Jesus knew it, he saith unto them, Why reason ye, because ye have no bread? perceive ye not yet, neither understand? have ye your heart yet hardened?

**[18] Having eyes, see ye not?
and having ears, hear ye not?
and do ye not remember? [19]
When I brake the five loaves
among five thousand, how many
baskets full of fragments took ye
up? They say unto him, Twelve.**

[20] And when the seven among four thousand, how many baskets full of fragments took ye up? And they said, Seven. [21] And he said unto them, How is it that ye do not understand?

V. The Feeding of the Four Thousand. (Matthew 15:32-34)

Matthew 15:32-34 Then Jesus called his disciples unto him, and said, I have compassion on the multitude, because they continue with me now three days, and have nothing to eat: and I will not send them away fasting, lest they faint in the way.

[33] And his disciples say unto him, Whence should we have so much bread in the wilderness, as to fill so great a multitude? [34] And Jesus saith unto them, How many loaves have ye? And they said, Seven, and a few little fishes.

**“Say not my soul, ‘From whence
can God relieve my care?’
Remember that Omnipotence has
servants everywhere.
His method is sublime, his heart
profoundly kind,
God never is before his time, and
never is behind.”**

**VI. Jesus Charges them to
Keep it Quiet.**

Mark 7:36 And he charged them that they should tell no man: but the more he charged them, so much the more a great deal they published it;

**VII. “He Hath Done All Things
Well!”**

**Mark 7:37 And were beyond
measure astonished, saying,
He hath done all things well: he
maketh both the deaf to hear,
and the dumb to speak.**