

## THE BLINDNESS OF RELIGION

### Mark 7:1–8:26

Discuss review questions from the previous lesson.

#### **DAYS 1 & 2: MARK 7:1-23—TEACHING: ADDRESSING THE REAL ISSUE**

1. What issue arose between the religious leaders and Jesus?
2. In what ways would you say people today “leave the commandment of God and hold to the tradition of men” (7:8)?
3. Reflect on Jesus’ admonition in 7:14-15 and 21-23. What does He want you to hear and understand from this section of Scripture?
4. Note the places in these verses where the heart is mentioned or alluded to. What do you think Jesus is referring to when He speaks of the heart?
5. From the following verses, what additional insight do you gain into Jesus’ words concerning the heart?
  - a. Matthew 6:21
  - b. Luke 6:45
6. According to these verses, what does God desire in the hearts of His children?
  - a. 2 Chronicles 16:9
  - b. Psalm 51:10, 16-17
  - c. Jeremiah 24:7

#### **DAY 3: MARK 7:24-37—HEALING: ADDRESSING PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS**

7. From verses 24-30, what do you observe about the woman?
8. Why are Jesus’ actions in healing the deaf and mute man particularly appropriate to his condition?
9. How does the crowd respond to this miracle?

**DAY 4: MARK 8:1-21—FEEDING: ADDRESSING PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL NEEDS**

10. From verses 1-3, what motivates Jesus to feed the 4,000?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
11. Jesus uses strong words to describe the disciples' lack of spiritual comprehension. What do you think He expected the disciples to have seen (8:17-18), heard (8:18), remembered (6:42-43; 8:18), and understood (8:17, 21)?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
12. Why is it so easy to forget the spiritual lessons God teaches us?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
13. Think of something Jesus has taught you recently. What could you do to help you remember this lesson?

**DAY 5: MARK 8:22-26—HEALING: PHYSICAL AND SPIRITUAL IMPLICATIONS**

14. Jesus laid His hands on the blind beggar two times to heal him. What unique might this suggest about how God sometimes heals people?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
15. Have you seen God work this healing process in someone's life? Please explain.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
16. Have you experienced this process yourself? If so, how?

**DAY 6: PARTICIPATE IN CLASS**

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**APPLY** what you have learned. *"Keep your heart with all vigilance, for from it flow the springs of life"* (Proverbs 4:23). Pause and meditate on this proverb. God asks you to carefully guard your heart, the center of your mind, emotions, will, and character. What specific things should you keep from your heart? What should be kept in your heart? Below, write a specific action plan for guarding your heart in the week to come.