

Maturity Myths

“Case For Christ” Series, (A Study of Mark’s Gospel, part 28)

Insights from Mark 8:22-33

June 12th, 2022, Pastor Bob Johnson, GPC

Context is Key:

(Mark 8:14-21)

A Miracle Redo:

Mark 8:22-26

A Message Rejected:

Mark 8:27-33

Myths about Maturity:

1. Happens without H ...

(Proverbs 24:16, James 3:2, 2 Timothy 3:16-17)

2. Happens without H ...

(Colossians 2:6, 2 Corinthians 3:18, Galatians 5:25)

3. Happens without H ...

(1 Timothy 4:7-8)

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This Week's Discussion Guide

Welcome to our seventh week of our nine week study and discussion based on our current Sunday series at GPC called, "Case For Christ".

In this series, we are slowly unpacking the Gospel of Mark. Each week we will read and reflect on a passage from Mark's gospel and discuss ways we can apply what we reflect on to our daily lives.

It is our prayer at GPC for our Sundays and small groups to provide the encouragement we all need to support each other as we desire to grow closer to God and build friendships as part of our vision at GPC to raise up committed Christ followers in a healthy church community.

Getting Started:

Each week, we typically start out with a few lighter questions to get us warmed up :).

In Mark 8:22-26, Jesus healed a guy by touching him twice. When have you had to do something more than once, to get it right?

The last verse that was shared on Sunday was 1 Timothy 4:7-8 that emphasized the importance of training over time.

When have you set a goal and had to work at it for a period of time to accomplish it?

Looking back at the time and effort you put in, was it worth it? Would you do it again?

In Mark 8:31-33, Jesus shared with the disciples that he will have to suffer many things and eventually die but that he will then rise again.

Peter didn't like that Jesus might suffer, so he rebuked Jesus and tried to encourage him to take another path.

Speaking of rebuking or correcting, when did someone muster up the courage to correct you because they were concerned for you or say something to you that wasn't comfortable at the time? Looking back, are you glad they shared with you what they did? Did it prompt any changes in your life?

Reviewing and Reflecting on the Passage:

Let's read the two key passages from last Sunday. (Mark 8:22-26, Mark 8:27-33)

After reading these passages and looking back on our notes from Sunday, was there a particular thought, verse or comment that caught your attention, challenged you or raised a question for you? What are some takeaways from these stories in regards to our faith?

Digging Deeper:

1. In Mark 8:22-26, we read about the healing of a blind man. Blindness was something Jesus encountered on numerous occasions. In the passages below, let's read about how Jesus met the needs of other people facing the same problem and note the differences in how Jesus heals each person.

Matthew 9:27-31

Matthew 20:29-34

John 9:1-12

Along with Mark 8:22-26, what can we learn from these three stories about how Jesus deals with people?

2. The way Jesus healed the blind man in Mark 8:22-26 by choosing a 'two stage healing process' was an object lesson for the early disciples and us today.

This miracle helps us understand how spiritual discernment and maturity happens.

How do the passages below help us better understand what is involved in the process of spiritual maturity?

Proverbs 4:18-19

John 15:1-8

2 Peter 1:3-11

3. In Mark 8:27-33, Jesus asked his early followers "Who do you say I am?" Our answer to that question will continue to deepen throughout our spiritual journey. Let's read through the following verses and discuss how they expand our understanding for who He is.

Isaiah 7:14, Isaiah 9:6, Matthew 1:21-23, John 6:35-40, John 11:25-26, John 10:7-18, John 14:1-7, Colossians 1:15-20, Hebrews 1:1-8

In light of the above passages, who do you say Jesus is?

How can our descriptions of who Jesus is make a difference in our daily lives?

Wrapping Up:

What is an application from what we read or discussed together that you would like to practice in the coming days? Is there anything that came up from this week's sermon or discussion that you would like prayer for? Is there anything else on your heart that you would like to express prayer for?