

Assignments on Mark 8

Please read Mark 8 and answer the following questions.

1. What concern did Jesus express about the multitude that He was teaching – 8:1-3?

2. What concern did the disciples express about the situation – 8:4? What does their concern demonstrate about the problems involved in feeding these people?

3. What did Jesus ask them in response – 8:5? What answer did they give? What else did they have according to verse 7?

4. What did Jesus do with the food – 8:6,7?

5. What did He do before distributing the food? What lesson should we learn from this practice?

6. How well did this meet the people's needs – 8:8? How many fragments were left over?

7. How many people ate – 8:9? Where else had Jesus done a similar miracle?

8. Explain how the specific information given here demonstrates that this was a miracle impossible by natural law.

9. Where did Jesus go then – 8:10? What request was made of Him – 8:11?

10. How did Jesus respond to the request – 8:12? Where else do we read further information about this kind of request?

11. **Special Assignment:** Why would Jesus refuse to give these people a sign? Did He always condemn people for wanting miracles? Had these people seen any of His miracles?

12. **Case Study:** When we ask so-called faith healers to do miracles today to prove they have the power, they often cite passages like this to justify refusing. How would you respond?

13. As Jesus and his disciples were leaving, what mistake had the disciples made – 8:13,14? How much food did they have?

14. What instruction did He give – 8:15? In what way did they misunderstand – 8:16?

15. What questions did He ask them to help them understand that His statement had not been concerned primarily about physical food – 8:17-21? Explain the point.

16. Read the accounts of this event as recorded in Matthew and Luke. What explanation do they give for the real meaning of Jesus' statement?

17. List other **passages** where the word leaven is used to illustrate the danger of error.

18. **Application:** List several ways that false teaching and error can properly be compared to leaven.

19. List other **passages** that warn us to beware of harmful influence that other people can have on our lives.

20. Where did Jesus go next? What request was made of Him there – 8:22?

21. What did Jesus do for the man – 8:23,24? What effect did this have on the man?

22. What did Jesus do then, and what was the result – 8:25? (Think: What significance is there in the fact that Jesus healed this man in stages?)

23. What instruction did Jesus give the man then – 8:26?

24. Where did Jesus and his disciples go next (see **map**) – 8:27? What question did Jesus ask the disciples?

25. Why was the question that Jesus asked important? What answers did the disciples give – 8:28?

26. **Application:** What was wrong with the views that people held about who Jesus was? In what ways do people today sometimes hold similar views?

27. What question did Jesus ask the apostles next – 8:29? What answer did Peter give? Explain it.

28. How might Peter have known the correct answer to the question Jesus asked? (Think: Why would Jesus instruct the apostles not to tell others who He was – 8:30?)

29. What prediction did Jesus make in 8:31? In what way was this statement amazing?

30. How did Peter respond to the prediction Jesus had made – 8:32,33? How did Jesus then respond to Peter? (Think: Why might Peter have responded as he did?)

31. Why would Peter's response be so offensive to Jesus? What reason did He give for Peter's error? What lessons can we learn?

32. **Special Assignment:** What did Jesus say a person must do in order to come after Him – 8:34,35? Study the context and explain what it means to deny oneself and take up his cross. Where had Jesus just said that He was going? What does a cross have to do with it?

33. How did Jesus teach the value of the soul in 8:36,37? Explain His point. What lessons should we learn?

34. What error did Jesus warn about in 8:38? How might we be guilty? What are the consequences? (Think: How does this warning relate to verses 34,35?)