

Peace Lutheran Weekly Walk - Mark #5

Peace Lutheran invites all members and guests to follow a weekly Bible reading series at home. For past handouts and suggestions for leading a family devotion, go to <https://peacewels.org/weekly-walk/>.

Questions about the readings can be addressed to either pastor or emailed to weeklywalk@peacewels.org

Prayer: Lord Jesus, you show us who you are: the mighty Lord, the promised Christ. Now teach us again what you have come to do. Show us your saving cross and resurrection and lead us to follow you and battle what our selfish sinful nature wants. When we fall, lift us up by your perfect cross-bearing and bring us to the eternal glory you won. Amen.

Day 1: Mark 8:14-26

Why was it foolish for the disciples to be worried about bread in this situation?

What did Jesus want them to be concerned about instead?

What does this tell us about the importance of even necessary things (like food) for our body and life when compared to spiritual matters?

Jesus compared the teaching of the Pharisees and Herod (this reference could include the Sadducees who generally supported Herod) to yeast. How is false teaching like yeast? (see Galatians 5:9 for help)

What are some unusual features about Jesus' healing of the blind man? Why might he have done things this way?

Day 2: Mark 8:27-9:1

Who did many people say Jesus was?

Who did Peter, answering for the disciples say Jesus is?

What did Jesus say would happen to Him as He carried out his work as the Christ (Messiah)? How did Peter react to this? Why?

Will following Jesus be easy and popular? What instead does Jesus say it will be like? What does this mean? Is it worth it?

Day 3: Mark 9:2-13

What happened to Jesus on the mountain?

Moses' life and ministry took place around 1500 BC and Elijah's around 850 BC. What does their appearing alive and well in glory on the mountain tell us about those who trust in the Promised Savior?

What does the transfiguration tell us about who Jesus is? What does the transfiguration tell us about Jesus' mission? (Hint, consider where going down that mountain would eventually take Jesus.)

Who was the "Elijah" Jesus was talking about who came before Himself and to whom "they did whatever they wanted?"

Day 4: Mark 9:14-29

What was wrong with the boy?

How did things look utterly hopeless for this boy?

From what Jesus says, why were the disciples unable to cast out the demon? What does this remind us about the Apostles?

No matter how hard the devil may fight against us, what does this lesson show us?

We may never have to cast out a demon, yet how else might we apply these words to ourselves: "this kind only comes out by prayer?"

Day 5: Mark 9:30-37

Why does Jesus want to avoid crowds at this time?

What is Jesus teaching them about?

What new detail does Jesus add as He talks about His suffering compared to what He foretold in Mark 8:31?

What had the disciples argued about?

What did Jesus need to teach His disciples about greatness?

Note there is a parallel here to the progression of thought and his disciples' actions to when He first foretold his death on Day 2 of this week (Mk 8:27-9:1).

Blessing: May the LORD, the Maker of heaven and earth, bless you from Zion (Psalm 134:3).

Final thoughts: Jesus teaches us the cross is central to the Christian life. Only His cross--His suffering and death saves us. The result of following Jesus is a cross, learning to die to what our sinful nature thinks about power and glory and pride. Lord, we do believe. Help us with our unbelief!

More Resources on Mark

Answers for this week's questions may be found on the Peace Website. [A Path Strewn with Sinners: A Devotional Study of Mark's Gospel & His Race to the Cross](#), by Wade Johnston. Two copies available in church library.