

# Mark: The Storyteller's Gospel (Mark 7)

Wednesday, May 22, 2019 at 7:00 PM

## Series objective

Regardless of what stage we are at in life, whether we are in the first steps to wanting to know more about God or 30 plus years of walking with Christ, we all need to know Jesus. By God's design, the best way to do this is by studying the Bible. The book of Mark gives us a very real and personal look at Jesus, almost as if we were sitting down with Him. Many people believe that the writing of Mark was significantly influenced by Peter, the disciple with whom many of us identify the most (often speaking and acting before thinking!!). Peter also loved Jesus in a very real way.

This series is designed to help us take a personal look at Jesus in a way that makes us look in the mirror. I think most of us would admit that we would live very different lives if we lived every moment as if we were completely devoted to Christ and what He did for us.

## Overview of Chapter 7

Verses 1–23	Jesus' assessment of clean versus unclean
Verses 24–30	Faith of a Gentile woman
Verses 31–37	Jesus heals a deaf mute

1. Jesus appears to shed some profound insights on what makes us unclean. Based on what you read in verses 1 through 23, answer the following.
  - a. What was the Pharisees' concept on clean versus unclean?
  - b. What was Jesus' response?
  - c. In your own life, what leads to your uncleanliness.
2. What does it mean to be "spiritually clean"? Why is this so important to God?
3. What drives or motivates you? How often do you consider the importance of cleanliness relative to your plans for life and the Lord granting you "the desires of your heart"?
4. In verses 24 through 30 we read about the faith of a Gentile woman (specifically, she was a Greek who was born in Syrian Phoenicia).
  - a. Why do you think Jesus originally rejected her request for healing (verse 27)?
  - b. What can we learn from this woman's tenacity and faith?
5. In verses 31 through 37 we read about Jesus healing a man who was both deaf and mute. In verses 33 through 35 we see that Jesus engaged in a very specific sequence of events. Why do you think He did this? Also, why do you think He sighed?

## Our next study (Wednesday, June 12)

Read Mark 8. Jesus appears to lose patience with the disciples several times. Why do you think He does this and are there times when you think He feels the same way with us?