

Mark, Transformation (Week 5)

Review:

- **Jesus has the credentials.**
 - The last prophet, John the Baptist; voice from heaven; miracles; demons cast out
- **Jesus' discipleship call to the twelve disciples (Matthew 4:19)**
 - He spends time with the disciples before the official call—He prays and chooses the twelve.
- **Jesus' discipleship methods**
 - *Come* and *be* with Jesus, and the process begins. He begins to train them, He shows them what to do by doing it, then He sends them out to try, and then He debriefs them.
 - The purpose of the Gospels is not only to reveal the gospel but also to show us how it looks to *be* and *make* disciples.
- **The lesson begins: It takes faith to be a disciple.**
 - This passage doesn't mean that God can only do miracles when people believe. He wants to, but people wouldn't let Him.
 - There's God's part and my part.

1. People won't always like what you become in Christ. (family/friends)

Mark 6:2–5 (NIV) ²When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. “Where did this man get these things?” they asked. “What’s this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? ³Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this Mary’s son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren’t his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. ⁴Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home.” ⁵He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them.

- A slam against Jesus by calling Him “Mary’s son” rather than the expected “Joseph’s son.”
- Sometimes people won’t let you get past your past.

2. What God allows in His mission won't always make sense. (John the Baptist)

Mark 6:14–16 (NIV) ¹⁴King Herod heard about this, for Jesus’ name had become well known. Some were saying, “John the Baptist has been raised from the dead, and that is why miraculous powers are at work in him.” ¹⁵Others said, “He is Elijah.” And still others claimed, “He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago.” ¹⁶But when Herod heard this, he said, “John, whom I beheaded, has been raised from the dead!”

John 3:26–31 (NIV) ²⁶They came to John and said to him, “Rabbi, that man who was with you on the other side of the Jordan—the one you testified about—look, he is baptizing, and everyone is going to him.” ²⁷To this John replied, “A person can receive only what is given them from heaven. ²⁸You yourselves can testify that I said, ‘I am not the Messiah but am sent ahead of him.’ ²⁹The bride belongs to the bridegroom. The friend who attends the bridegroom waits and listens for him, and is full of joy when he hears the bridegroom’s voice. That joy is mine, and it is now complete. ³⁰He must become greater; I must become less.” ³¹The one who comes from above is above all; the one who is from the earth belongs to the earth, and speaks as one from the earth. The one who comes from heaven is above all.

Matthew 11:2–6 (NIV) ²When John, who was in prison, heard about the deeds of the Messiah, he sent his disciples ³to ask him, “Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?” ⁴Jesus replied, “Go back and report to John what you hear and see: ⁵The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is proclaimed to the poor. ⁶Blessed is anyone who does not stumble on account of me.”

3. God will put you into situations where you can't do it on your own.

Mark 6:30–44 (NIV) ³⁰The apostles gathered around Jesus and reported to him all they had done and taught. ³¹Then, because so many people were coming and going that they did not even have a chance to eat, he said to them, “Come with me by yourselves to a quiet place and get some rest.” ³²So they went away by themselves in a boat to a solitary place. ³³But many who saw them leaving recognized them and ran on foot from all the towns and got there ahead of them. ³⁴When Jesus landed and saw a large crowd, he had compassion on them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd. So he began teaching them many things. ³⁵By this time it was late in the day, so his disciples came to him. “This is a remote place,” they said, “and it’s already very late. ³⁶Send the people away so that they can go to the surrounding countryside and villages and buy themselves something to eat.” ³⁷But he answered, “You give them something to eat.” They said to him, “That would take more than half a year’s wages! Are we to go and spend that much on bread and give it to them to eat?” ³⁸“How many loaves do you have?” he asked. “Go and see.” When they found out, they said, “Five—and two fish.” ³⁹Then Jesus directed them to have all the people sit down in groups on the green grass. ⁴⁰So they sat down in groups of hundreds and fifties. ⁴¹Taking the five loaves and the two fish and looking up to heaven, he gave thanks and broke the loaves. Then he gave them to his disciples to distribute to the people. He also divided the two fish among them all. ⁴²They all ate and were satisfied, ⁴³and the disciples picked up twelve basketfuls of broken pieces of bread and fish. ⁴⁴The number of the men who had eaten was five thousand.

- **A focus on the lessons from the Feeding of the Five Thousand:**

- Jesus cares and wants us to care.
 - He wants us to join Him in the mission. Bring to Jesus what you have.
 - Trust Jesus to supply the rest. (He will do what He has planned to do.)
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4. Trusting God means we embrace His bigger perspective.

John 6:25–66

Jesus is the Bread of Life, and Many Disciples Desert Jesus

Notice:

- They missed the point. They wanted the physical rather than the spiritual. Jesus had said to work for food that would last and that “man does not live by bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God.” (**John 6:27, Matthew 4:4**)
- He was pointing to a spiritual truth they would understand later—communion.
- They left Jesus because they couldn't believe Him. (**John 6:66**)

The transformation begins with faith. Faith is to see with spiritual eyes and trust Jesus.

Questions for your devotional time and conversations with others:

1. From the sermon, what resonated with you or challenged you?

a. How will you respond to what you heard this week?

As you read/listen to: Mark 6:53-7:23, be thinking about:

2. Who is interacting with Jesus? What does Jesus challenge in their thinking?
3. What do you think Jesus is saying about tradition and heart transformation?
4. How do you become aware of what is in your heart? What is your part in your own heart transformation?
5. Share with someone what you are discovering. Invite them to share what they are learning from God and His word.

The Book of Mark Reading Plan:

June 10-June 16: **Mark 6:53-7:23**

June 17-June 23: **Mark 7:24-8:26**

June 24-June 30: **Mark 8:27-9:13**