
The Jesus Most People Miss

Part 1

THE STORY:

Mark 7:31-8:10

He is a Jesus that:

- cares more about a **relationship** than an **experience**.

Mark 7:31-37, 3:12, 5:40-43, 8:23; Matthew 9:30, 12:16, 16:20, 17:9; Luke 5:14, Acts 9:40

- will always meet you **where you are at**.

Mark 7:33-35; Luke 7:39, 19:5-7; John 3:16, 4:4-8; Philippians 2:5-11; Romans 5:8; 1 Timothy 1:15

- is moved by a **compassion** to meet **needs**.

Mark 8:1-3, 1:41; Matthew 9:35-36, 20:34; Luke 7:11-15; John 11:32-44

- knows you don't have **what it takes**,
but still asks for **what you have**.

Mark 8:4-5; 1 Corinthians 1:26-31; Philippians 4:13; Matthew 13:32; Exodus 4:1-12

- does not **need us**, but still chooses to **use us**.

Mark 8:6-10; Judges 7:2; 1 Samuel 17:47

NEXT WEEK, PART 2: Mark 8:11-26

The Jesus Most People Miss

Food for Thought for the week of August 14, 2005

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. We saw this week that it is easy to get caught up thinking we have what it takes and miss the opportunity to respond to what Jesus is asking of us. In understanding this truth it remains important to know what we do have because of what Jesus has done for us. What do the following verses say you have, as a result of your commitment to follow Jesus?

1 Corinthians 2:12

We have not received the spirit of the world but the Spirit who is from God, that we may understand what God has freely given us. [NIV]

1 John 4:18

There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. [NIV]

Philippians 4:19

And my God will meet all your needs according to his glorious riches in Christ Jesus. [NIV]

Ephesians 1:7-8

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, in accordance with the riches of God's grace [8] that he lavished on us with all wisdom and understanding. [NIV]

2 Corinthians 5:17

Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; the old has gone, the new has come! [NIV]

2 Corinthians 3:17-18

Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. [18] And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. [NIV]

How does knowing what you have been given, help you now rely on Jesus for what you don't have?

2. Read the story of the widow in Mark 12:41-44 and answer the following questions:

Mark 12:41-44

Jesus sat down opposite the place where the offerings were put and watched the crowd putting their money into the temple treasury. Many rich people threw in large amounts. [42] But a poor widow came and put in two very small copper coins, worth only a fraction of a penny.

[43] Calling his disciples to him, Jesus said, "I tell you the truth, this poor widow has put more into the treasury than all the others. [44] They all gave out of their wealth; but she, out of her poverty, put in everything--all she had to live on." [NIV]

How does this story compare or contrast with what we saw Jesus teaching the disciples in the feeding of the five thousand this weekend?

How do her actions contrast with what most people would do in similar circumstances?

Can you think of any potential applications or challenges in your life from the example she gives us?

3. Joshua became the leader of the Israelite nation after Moses died. What instructions did God give Joshua regarding what he had and what he didn't have to succeed in Joshua chapter 1? How are God's instructions here simpler than most people realize? Is there anything in this lesson that motivates you to start or stop doing?