

Reflection Questions: To what spiritual truths am I deaf and blind? Does the truth of God permeate my being? Why or why not? Is Jesus my Bread? How? How can I grow in my responsiveness to God in His Word?

How can we pray for one another and our church this week?



Blindness, Part 1

Sermon
Notes

May 28, 2023

1. The Blindness of the Pharisees (11-13)

2. The Blindness of the Disciples (14-21)

Quotes to Ponder

There is no better shield against spiritual declension and weakness than Christian remembering.

R. Kent Hughes

Faith does not ask for signs. True faith takes God at His Word and is satisfied with the inward witness of the Spirit.

Warren Wiersbe

None are so blind as those who will not see.

Anonymous

The disciples' major problem is not simply their blindness, but the failure to recognize that they are blind.

David E. Garland

Beware of seeking signs, of wanting something more—more than what God has given us through His sufficient Word.

Chris Mueller

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1. What in the text/sermon impacted you? Encouraged you? Convicted you? Challenged you? Confused you? Comforted you?

2. Read this account in the following accounts, noting what you learn from each. Are there any contradictions? If so, how do you solve them?

Matthew 16:1-12 —

Mark 8:11-21 —

Luke 12:1 —

3. What kind of sign were the Pharisees looking for (*Mark 8:11*)? What sign would have convinced them of who Jesus was? Explain.

4. What does it say about some who is still seeking signs from Jesus today?

5. How was this request for a sign a test for Jesus (*Mark 8:11*)?

6. Why does Jesus *sign deeply* in *Mark 8:12*?

7. Why does Jesus refuse to give the Pharisees a sign (*Mark 8:12*)?

8. What is Jesus saying by the way He responds to the Pharisees (*Mark 8:12-13*)?

9. Why were the disciples upset at the lack of bread and what was the

point of Jesus' response (*Mark 8:14-16*)?

10. What does Jesus intend for the disciples to understand and to do when He warns them in *Mark 8:15*?

11. How can we better learn the lessons of the past, remember them, and be more ready to trust Jesus in the present and future?

12. What is *the leaven of the Pharisees* and of *Herod* (*Mark 8:15*)?

13. What does Jesus want the disciples to understand by His series of questions in *Mark 8:17-20*?

14. What do we learn of Jesus in *Mark 8:11-21* and why does it matter?

15. Although Jesus rebukes the disciples for their lack of remembrance, what does He later promise them in *John 14:25-26*?

16. Mark records three boat scenes. How do the disciples show themselves in each one? Why?

Mark 4:35-41 —

Mark 6:45-52 —

Mark 8:13-21 —

17. According to *Matthew 16:8* what is the disciples' problem?