

Monday (Feb.11 th)	<p>Scripture: Mark 7:14-23</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Why do you think <i>Jesus strongly emphasized</i> on the difference of <i>external cleanliness versus internal cleanliness</i>? Vs. 14-19 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Why would Mark specifically add the parenthetical comment that, “<i>In saying this, Jesus declared all foods ‘clean’</i>”? Vs. 19 How did <i>Jesus replace the normal Jewish understandings of defilement (unclean) versus the truth of God on defilement</i>? Vs. 20-23 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What then <i>should not interrupt your fellowship with God</i>? Do you <i>know your heart well</i>? What are the <i>usual thoughts in your heart</i>?
Tuesday (Feb.12 th)	<p>Scripture: Mark 7:24-30</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What do you think <i>Jesus wanted to do</i> when he reached the vicinity of Tyre and entered a house (guess)? Vs. 24 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Describe the <i>woman’s attitude when she asks Jesus for help</i>? Vs. 25-26 What <i>connection</i> do you think Jesus wants to make in <i>his responses</i> to the woman <i>and the woman’s request and reply</i>? Vs. 27-29¹ <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What can we <i>learn from the woman’s faith in Jesus</i>? How would you <i>rate your level of faith in Jesus, especially during difficult issue/decision in your life</i>? Why?
Wednesday (Feb.13 th)	<p>Scripture: Mark 7:31-37</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Imagine what <i>life would be like for the deaf AND mute man</i>. Vs. 32 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What do you think <i>he would say once he could talk and hear</i>? Vs. 35 How would you <i>feel</i> if your <i>whole communication system were closed off (any advantages/disadvantages)</i>? What <i>actions did Jesus take</i> to heal the deaf and mute man? Vs. 33-35 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What <i>spiritual insight/lesson</i> can we learn from this act of Christ: “<i>He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, ‘Ephphatha!’</i>”? Vs. 34 Meditate on this statement: “<i>He has done everything well</i>”. Vs. 37
Thursday (Feb.14 th)	<p>Scripture: Mark 8:1-13</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> How do you feel/emotional reactions do you have towards this statement by Jesus: “<i>I have compassion for these people</i>”? Vs. 2 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carefully read the passage (particularly verses 2-3, 6-7, 12) and try to find Jesus’ <i>personality traits/characters</i>. How can we <i>learn to be more like Jesus</i>? What do you think <i>Jesus’ disciples still have not spiritually learned</i>²? Vs. 4 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> As Jesus’ followers, how should we be <i>more sensitive towards the spiritual lessons that Jesus teaches</i> us, so that we will not be slow learners? How come <i>Jesus decides not to give any more miraculous sign</i> to the Pharisees/that generation? What is the <i>spiritual lesson here</i>? Vs. 11-13

Friday (Feb.15 th)	<p>Scripture: Mark 8:14-21</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Why do you think <i>Jesus warned</i> the disciples to “<i>Be careful of the Pharisees and that of Herod</i>”? Vs. 15 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If you <i>were the disciples</i>, would you have <i>thought the same</i>? Vs. 16 Would you say <i>Jesus was frustrated</i> with the disciples’ slow learning? Why/why not? Vs. 17-21 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ask yourself the following questions and <i>honestly answer them</i>: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Do you <i>understand what is in Jesus’ heart</i>? Yes No <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ What is in His heart? ~ Do you <i>see and hear what Jesus sees and hears</i>? Yes No <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ What does <i>He see and hear</i>? ~ Do you <i>remember what Jesus has done</i>, especially in your life? Yes No <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ What <i>has He done</i>, especially to you? ~ Do you <i>understand what He wants you to learn/do</i>? Yes No <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ~ What does <i>He want you to learn/do</i>? ~
Saturday (Feb.16 th)	<p>Scripture: Mark 8:22-25</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What did the <i>people beg Jesus to do to heal the blind man</i>? Vs. 22 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What <i>spiritual lesson</i> can we learn from the <i>blind man and the people</i>? How did <i>Jesus heal the blind man</i>? Vs. 23-25 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Jesus laid hands two times</i> to heal the blind man. If you <i>were the blind man</i>, what would you be thinking? Though you are not physically blind, <i>are you still spiritually blind</i>? Spiritually, do you <i>see things clearly</i>? Why/why not? In what ways can we help ourselves/others to <i>better restore spiritual sight</i>?
Sunday (Feb.17 th)	<p>Scripture: Psalms 38</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> What <i>wordings did David use</i> to describe his... <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <i>plea for relief</i> from the Lord’s rebuke³? Vs. 1-4 <i>physical and psychological effects</i> of his illness? Vs. 5-8 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Though you <i>may not have sinned like David</i>, do you <i>share</i> some of this <i>feelings or experiences</i>? How so? How did David.... <ol style="list-style-type: none"> once again <i>elaborate his appeal</i>? Vs. 9-12, 17-20 ask <i>God to help him/treat his enemies</i>? Vs. 13-16 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> What <i>situation are you at</i> in this moment in your life? <i>God is near, He is forgiving and loving, and He wants to listen and help you</i>. Try to memorize verse 21-22: “<i>O LORD⁴, do not forsake me; be not far from me, O my God Come quickly to help me, O Lord my Savior.</i>”

¹Children’s in this context refer to “The lost sheep of Israel”. Their dogs = The Greek says, “little dogs,” meaning a pet dog in the home, and Jesus’ point was that the gospel was to be given first to the Jews. The woman understand Jesus’ implication and was willing to settle for ‘crumbs’. Jesus rewarded her faith (The NIV Study Bible, p. 1464-65).

²They were eyewitnesses at the feeding of the 5000 and other miracles.

³The NIV Study Bible, p. 824.

⁴Whenever LORD is spelled in all capital letters in the Bible, it refers to Yahweh, the Hebrew name for God, I AM WHO I AM. So David literally called upon God, the LORD/Yahweh, to help him.