

- b. She *worshipped* him, bowing down in reverence.
 - c. She possessed humility (knew who she was) & good reasoning ability!
 - d. PShe was patient & persistent.
 - e. Christ's assessment: **Gt. faith !!! (Mt. 15:28)**
- B. A Deaf Man's Hearing Was Restored, **7:31-37**.
- 1. A man who was deaf & dumb was taken aside privately for this healing miracle.
 - a. Touched ears & tongue.
 - b. Looked up to heaven, sighed (e.g., **Rom. 8:23, 26**), *be opened*, --- immediate results, **vs. 35**.
 - 2. Before Jesus left this Gentile region, the people glorified the God of Israel, **Mt. 15:30f**.
- C. 4000 were miraculously fed, **Mk. 8:1-9**
- 1. Similar to feeding of 5000, but there are some notable differences.
 - a. 5000 Jews fed in Galilee; 4000 Gentiles fed near Decapolis.
 - b. 5000 fed w/ 5 loaves & 2 fish, 12 baskets leftovers; 4000 fed w/ 7 loaves & few fish, 7 baskets left.
 - 2. 1st *basket* = small basket // 2nd of the baskets was large enough to hold a man, c. **Ac. 9:25**
 - 3. Hard not to notice the unbelief of disciples (**8:4**), but how often do we question that Christ is the solution to the problems we face today???
 - 4. We still need to learn the lesson Christ taught Gentiles: To Trust & Obey.

III. EXHORTING THOSE FOLLOWING CHRIST (*the Disciples*) **Mk. 8:10-26**

- A. Crossing Sea of Galilee again to w. coast, Christ & disciples met by angry Pharisees (He: *hypocrites*).
- 1. Pharisees asked of Jesus a **sign f/ heaven** (besides healing sick) to prove His authority.
 - 2. His response: disappointment (c. **7:34**).
 - 3. Had answered similar "?" f/ Jews – **sign of Jonah** – but these were Gentiles, so He did not use ~ lesson.
- B. Again, Jesus crosses to opposite side of Sea. **8:13-21**
- 1. Disciples are discussing a problem: *Who was supposed to bring the food?* (Still hadn't applied lessons.)
 - 2. Jesus warned His disciples of the influence of the Pharisees! (They worried ~ just 1 loaf!...but had Chris)
 - 3. He was disappointed at their failing memory, & lack of trust in Him.
- C. Real lesson \geq about bread, but *leaven*, & particularly re: evil influences.
- 1. *Leaven* = false doctrine, (**Gal. 5:1-9**), sin (**1 Cor. 5**) & hypocrisy (**Lk. 12:1**)
 - 2. Leaven is small, but insidious – has a powerful affect, so **BEWARE (vs. 15)**
- D. Another blind man healed (**vs. 22-26**) ***1 of 7 blind given sight in the scriptures.**

Concl.

- A. This sighted man was to go to his own house, telling no one in town.
- 1. Bethsaida had been given ample opportunity to turn to the Lord, but generally spkg, she did not.
 - 2. It = dangerous thing to reject God's message!!!
- B. Need to remember what the disciples learned from the Master Teacher.
- 1. Rather than seeking after some super **sign**, we need to live by faith in God's word.
 - 2. We can trust Christ to meet our needs...
 - 3. Guard vs false doctrine
- C. Have you learned anything re: Christ this hour that compells you to follow Christ tonight?
- 1. He taught religious people to respect His will (word) above relig. traditions.
 - 2. He taught unbelievers to have enough faith & trust in Him to obey & follow Him.
 - 3. He warned followers of evil influences: *false doctrine, sin, hypocrisy & unbelief.*