

# **Do you not yet Understand?**

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## I. Introduction.

- A. Text: Mark 7.
- B. Jesus spent almost a third of His ministry with the Gentiles.
- C. This story reminds us the importance of faith.

## II. There is a great challenge that is represented in being deaf and dumb, which symbolizes a spiritual truth.

- A. It is an embarrassment to be deaf and dumb, so the Lord deals with the man privately.
- B. Jesus told the man to be open—He acts out to him what He wants to convey to him so that he might invite faith.
- C. Faith is a necessary ingredient to receiving anything from God.
- D. The man's faith was fixed upon the God ready to act, not the action.
- E. When faith is fixed upon the object and not the act, it is faith to be a witness.

## III. Jesus repeats the miracle of the multiplication of loaves because of His compassion for the Gentiles, and He had a lesson for them.

- A. Start with what you have.
- B. The supply will always meet the demand.
- C. The miracles are never to remain on the physical level—the spirit is central.
  - 1. You must learn to feed on the Lord Jesus.
  - 2. You cannot keep your spirit strong if you do not feed it.
  - 3. The way to know God is feeding upon Jesus through the Word and believing it.

## IV. The Pharisees did not believe Jesus, and Jesus warned against their teaching.

- A. The Pharisees taught that God was only interested in outward performance.
- B. How to keep spiritually alive as a believer.
  - 1. We must be responsive in mind and in heart when we face the spiritual “blahs.”
  - 2. Look beyond the physical to the spiritual.

3. Remember what God has done for you in the past and lay hold of that truth.

**Application questions:**

1. What should the object of our faith be? Why is faith invalid if it is just faith in faith itself?

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2. What areas of life is it necessary to look beyond the physical? Explain.

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3. When have you found yourself facing the spiritual “blahs?” How does the speaker recommend dealing with this adequately?

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