

Series: JESUS IS THE SUBJECT

Title: Deep Satisfaction

Speaker: Bob Marvel

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Have you ever been in a conversation only to find out you are not even talking about the same thing? That's what happens to Jesus and his disciples. Read Mark 8:1-21.

The setting

Jesus is no run of the mill Rabbi. He does miracles not only with ease but day after day, week after week, for years. He teaches as if he were the Law Giver himself. Then Jesus does what no rabbi would dare. He leaves the Holy Land and associates with total pagans, and not just any pagans. The people in Tyre, Sidon and over in the Decapolis occupied the very bottom rung of holiness. See Matthew 11:21-22.

If you're a Roman, you're not a Jew, and you're reading the Gospel of Mark, what would that mean to you?

And if you're a modern day disciple of Jesus, how does that speak/challenge you?

The conversation

When Jesus comes back to 'where God lives', the "truth squad", is waiting, Mark 8:10. He is so ticked he gets in the boat and the whole crew heads out on the lake. Here's where the conversation gets confusing. What two things are really bothering Jesus, and what are the disciples so bothered about?

If God did one super-duper miracle, would that solve all your doubts about his goodness and power?

How does Pastor Bob caution us to handle the symbolism and the numbers in this? Recall interpreting Ronald Wilson Reagan and Pastor Robert Marvel as letters and what they could stand for.

That said Bob invites us to see there may be some helpful symbolism here.
Feeding the 5,000 + Jews

1. 12 baskets symbolize _____
2. 5 loaves symbolize _____

Feeding the 4,000 ± Gentiles

3. 7 baskets symbolize _____
4. 7 loaves symbolize _____.

Putting the two miracles so close together---

5. 12 small baskets symbolize _____ and
6. 7 large baskets symbolize _____.
7. If you read these two passages with Mark 14:22, what comes to mind?

Note: I appreciate about how Bob handled this for several reasons.

1. He clearly said how these were his thoughts.
2. He invited us to invite the Spirit to teach us.
3. His approaches the Scripture, is the same as it is to Mark: Jesus is the subject and something of him is in every book.

What's your take away from this passage?