



January 8, 2023

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Mark 7:31-37

1. Sandy reminds us that the most powerful ministry is not through big events or large gatherings. The most powerful ministry is personal. Share a memorable experience when you ministered personally to someone else, or someone else ministered personally to you. What made this so memorable and powerful?
2. Read verses 33-34. Jesus did at least 3 specific things when he healed the deaf and mute man. What does this healing tell us about Jesus' ministry?
3. Read verses 36-37. The statement, "He has done everything well." refers us back to the creation story. The statement, "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak." refers us back to Isaiah 35:5-6. Why is it significant that Mark included these specific statements in his gospel account? What can we learn about Jesus from the geographical location of this miracle?
4. We observe four ways Jesus' ministry was intentionally personal.
  - A. Jesus brought his disciples along with him. Why is this an important lesson for us as we consider our ministry opportunities? Who might you take along to make your ministry more personal?
  - B. Jesus found ways to minister to people. What is a great way for you to minister to people this year? Identify a practical example.
  - C. Prayer was central to Jesus' ministry. What would it look like practically for you to become more intentional in your prayer life for specific people in your life who need Jesus?

- D. Jesus spoke the words of God. Share a time when you spoke the word of God and it was well received and powerful. What was the context in which you shared the word of God?
5. What have you learned from this passage that has challenged you most? What is a practical change you can make in your ministry to emulate Jesus' personal ministry?