

12TH FEBRUARY - MARK 7:6

"THESE PEOPLE HONOUR ME WITH THEIR LIPS, BUT THEIR HEARTS ARE FAR FROM ME."

**TRUTH:** WE CAN DO ALL THE 'RIGHT' THINGS, BUT IF OUR HEARTS ARE NOT RIGHT THEN WE CAN'T BE FRIENDS WITH GOD.

**INVESTIGATE:** WHAT WRONG THINGS COME FROM YOUR HEART? READ MARK 7:24-30. OUR HEARTS ARE 'UNCLEAN' BUT JESUS HAS THE POWER TO MAKE THINGS THAT ARE UNCLEAN, CLEAN AGAIN.

13TH FEBRUARY - MARK 8:23-25

HE TOOK THE BLIND MAN BY THE HAND AND LED HIM OUTSIDE THE VILLAGE. WHEN HE HAD SPAT ON THE MAN'S EYES AND PUT HIS HANDS ON HIM, JESUS ASKED, 'DO YOU SEE ANYTHING?' HE LOOKED UP AND SAID, 'I SEE PEOPLE; THEY LOOK LIKE TREES WALKING AROUND.' ONCE MORE JESUS PUT HIS HANDS ON THE MAN'S EYES. THEN HIS EYES WERE OPENED, HIS SIGHT WAS RESTORED, AND HE SAW EVERYTHING CLEARLY.

**TRUTH:** THE DISCIPLES COULD ONLY PARTLY UNDERSTAND ('SEE') WHO JESUS WAS. BUT JESUS CAN MAKE US UNDERSTAND FULLY.

**INVESTIGATE:** DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO DOESN'T KNOW JESUS YET? PRAY THAT GOD WOULD OPEN THEIR EYES.

14TH FEBRUARY - MARK 9:24

IMMEDIATELY THE BOY'S FATHER EXCLAIMED, 'I DO BELIEVE; HELP ME OVERCOME MY UNBELIEF!'

**TRUTH:** SOMETIMES WE CAN FEEL THAT TRUSTING ('BELIEVING') IN JESUS IS DIFFICULT. BUT WE CAN PRAY WITH THIS MAN 'HELP ME BELIEVE'... AND THAT IS AN ACT OF BELIEF IN JESUS!

**INVESTIGATE:** HAVE YOU EVER WONDERED IF IT'S ALL REALLY TRUE? WHEN WE'RE UNSURE WE CAN ASK JESUS TO HELP US BELIEVE AND TRUST. AND HE WILL.

15TH FEBRUARY - MARK 10:14

"LET THE LITTLE CHILDREN COME TO ME, AND DO NOT HINDER THEM, FOR THE KINGDOM OF GOD BELONGS TO SUCH AS THESE."

**TRUTH:** TRUST IN JESUS IS WHAT IS IMPORTANT IN GOD'S KINGDOM.

**INVESTIGATE:** WHAT DO WE NEED TO DO TO BE WELCOMED BY GOD? GOD DOESN'T WELCOME PEOPLE BECAUSE THEY'RE CLEVER OR IMPORTANT OR POWERFUL. HE WELCOMES PEOPLE BECAUSE THEY KNOW THAT THEY NEED JESUS.

16TH FEBRUARY - MARK 11:17

JESUS SAID, 'IS IT NOT WRITTEN: "MY HOUSE WILL BE CALLED A HOUSE OF PRAYER FOR ALL NATIONS"? BUT YOU HAVE MADE IT "A DEN OF ROBBERS".'

**TRUTH:** GOD'S PEOPLE WERE MEANT TO BLESS THE WHOLE WORLD. THEY FAILED BUT JESUS SUCCEEDS AS HE DIES FOR EVERYONE.

**INVESTIGATE:** READ V15-18. WHAT WERE THE PEOPLE DOING? WHAT WAYS DO WE KEEP PEOPLE OUT OF OUR CHRISTIAN GROUP? JESUS DIED FOR EVERYONE, NOT JUST FOR THOSE IN OUR GROUP. HOW CAN WE 'BLESS' THOSE WHO AREN'T IN OUR GROUP?

17TH FEBRUARY - MARK 12:38-40

JESUS SAID, 'WATCH OUT FOR THE TEACHERS OF THE LAW. THEY LIKE TO WALK AROUND IN FLOWING ROBES AND BE GREETED WITH RESPECT IN THE MARKET-PLACES, AND HAVE THE MOST IMPORTANT SEATS IN THE SYNAGOGUES AND THE PLACES OF HONOUR AT BANQUETS. THEY DEVOUR WIDOWS' HOUSES AND FOR A SHOW MAKE LENGTHY PRAYERS. THESE MEN WILL BE PUNISHED MOST SEVERELY.'

**TRUTH:** GOD DOESN'T WANT US DOING THINGS TO IMPRESS OTHERS. HE WANTS US TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT BECAUSE WE LOVE HIM.

**INVESTIGATE:** READ V28-33. WHAT DOES GOD THINK IS MOST IMPORTANT? WHY?

18TH FEBRUARY - MARK 13:10

"AND THE GOSPEL MUST FIRST BE PREACHED TO ALL NATIONS."

**TRUTH:** PEOPLE WILL TRY AND STOP THE GOOD NEWS (THE GOSPEL) SPREADING, BUT THEY CAN'T. THE GOSPEL WILL BE SPREAD TO ALL NATIONS.

**INVESTIGATE:** DO YOU KNOW ANYONE WHO IS TAKING THE GOOD NEWS TO OTHER COUNTRIES? PRAY FOR THEM NOW. DID YOU KNOW THAT YOU CAN BE INVOLVED IN THIS RIGHT WHERE YOU ARE? WHO COULD YOU SHARE THE GOOD NEWS ABOUT JESUS WITH TODAY?

