

MARK 7 vs 31

Mark was the son of a wealthy family in Jerusalem, he was a cousin of Barnabas, who traveled with Paul. Since earliest times it was understood Peter was the primary source of information for this gospel. With the authority of Peter as its foundation, the writing of Mark, was never questioned to be included as canonical. His writing emphasizes more about what Jesus did than what He said.



Healing the deaf one, who could not speak,

31 And again, departing from the coasts of Tyre and Sidon / coastal cities in Lebanon,

He came to the sea of Galilee, passing through the regions of Decapolis / in other words, Jesus was on the move! He was not: praising God with the dance... sitting in the pew! So, they are some place east of the sea of Galilee, near the Jordon River.

32 And they brought to Him one who was deaf, and had an impediment in his speech / Matthew Henry said, he was tongue tied and perfectly unfit for conversation. Can you imagine being incapable of telling another what is on your mind and heart?

and they asked Him / they had a request for Jesus,

to put His hand on him / they wanted Him to dazzle them all with that magic miracle-working power of His. Now Jesus isn't bothered by faulty thinking: He's a teacher. He knows how to correct His students... and He loves to go where He sees: faith in action. I remember once, Dr. Scott was accused of having: bad faith. But he simply responded: **Bad faith... is better than no faith...** because without faith -- good or bad... it is impossible to please God. And here are these people who brought their friend to Jesus.



Mark writes...

33 And instead He took him aside / Jesus took the deaf man aside. Now apparently, Jesus told this crowd of 100... 200 people? To stay where they were; and can you imagine... He spoke with power... with authority. And those people stood there... with their sandals glued to the ground; and I bet not one... moved an inch or said a peep!

And Mark writes...

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And instead Jesus took him aside from the multitude / I wonder if they just walked around the corner. Jesus was no freak show, like we see flipping by those church TV channels. Nope! Not His style. He came with power and authority to do the will of His Father. **Not a word He said**; not a thing He did... **originated from Himself**. He wasn't there to showoff, He probably took him around the corner; certainly, away from the crowd. And pay attention; watch what happens...

Jesus... put His fingers into his ears,

and He spit, and touched his tongue / Now, why did He do that? At other times, Jesus would just touch them... and give the command: Be healed! Dr. Edersheim says, this elaborate use of means banishes any idea... any notion that magic is being used. No hocus pocus formulas were being whispered over this deaf and stammering man. They had to be close, right? Fingers in his ears; touching his tongue;

³⁴ **And looking up to heaven** / so the man would know where the power came from; and to Whom belonged the glory... encouraging that man's faith... as his eyes followed the Savior's... in the upward look,

And Mark writes...

He sighed / now, why did Jesus sigh? I mean, this should be a joyous occasion, right? It is; but it's serious, too. In Hebrews we read, We have a high priest who is touched with our infirmities. In Romans 8 we read, He searches our hearts; He knows our infirmities. He makes intercession for us. Jesus was not reluctant to heal; nor to share His kindness. But Jesus also knew... this man would be exposed to a sardonic and abusive world... he could never have imagined.

Mark writes...

He sighed, and said to him, Ephphatha, that is, open / it's one word: Jesus speaks with authority and power went along with His word. At Jesus' command, we read...

³⁵ **And his ears were opened, and immediately the string of his tongue was untied,**
and he spoke clearly.

And returning to the multitude...

³⁶ **He ordered them that they should tell no one, but the more He ordered them, all the more they greatly proclaimed it** / tell nobody! Yea right. He ordered them, but do you think they listened? And we might wonder, did Jesus do that intentionally knowing they would not listen? / the more He commanded them; the more the news spread like wildfire;

³⁷ **And were beyond measure astonished** / Mark says there is no way to describe the response of this enormous crowd of people, they could probably be heard all the way to Capernaum,

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they were... astonished saying, / Unbelievable!

He has done all things well:

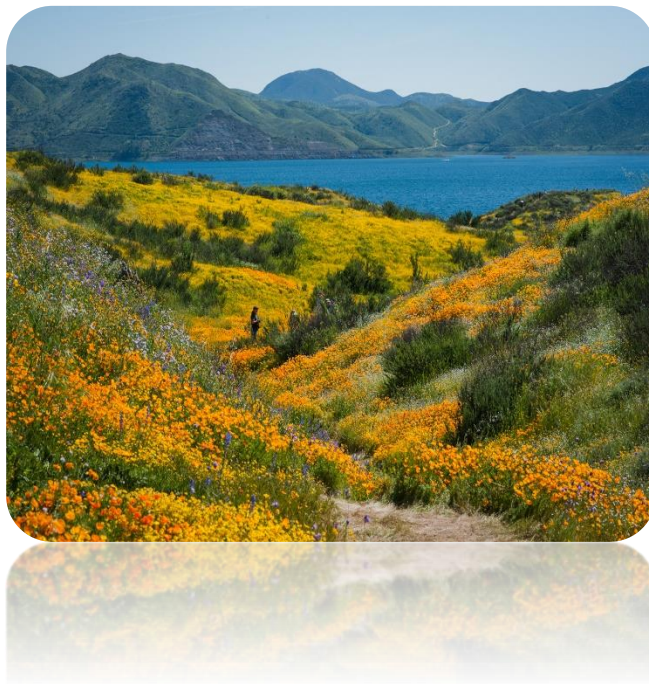
He makes the deaf both to hear, and the stammering to speak.

Well, that's what Isaiah said: The wilderness and the solitary place will be glad for them; and the desert will rejoice. – [Isaiah 35](#).

Why?

Because... [the eyes of the blind will be opened, and the ears of the deaf will be unstopped... and the tongue of the dumb sing. And the ransomed of the Lord will return, and come to Zion with songs... and everlasting joy... and sorrow and sighing will flee away.](#)

Because Isaiah says, Surely, He took our sorrows, our pains... our sicknesses... our diseases... and so much more... He carried them all away – [Isaiah 53](#). [To God be the glory!](#)



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