

Series: Goodnews
Passage: Mark 7:31-37
Sunday: October 18, 2026

Mark 7:31-37 (ESV)

³¹ Then he returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. ³² And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. ³³ And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. ³⁴ And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵ And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. ³⁷ And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”

1. What is one sound that you would really miss if you could never hear it again?

2. What is your initial reaction to how “physical” Jesus’ healing method was? Why do you think Jesus chose a highly physical and visual method to this miracle?

3. Verse 34 notes that Jesus looked up to heaven and sighed deeply. What do you think this sigh communicated about what Jesus was feeling in this moment?

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4. Look up and read Isaiah 35:5-6. What might Mark be trying to communicate to his readers about who Jesus really is?

5. Jesus' command is "Be opened." In what areas of your life (spiritual blindness, hardness of heart, unwillingness to listen) do you need Jesus to speak "be opened" today?

6. What do you think we should make of the fact that the people ignored Jesus' instruction to remain silent?

7. In verse 37, the crowds concluded with the praise, "He has done all things well." How is this phrase a fitting summary for the whole of Jesus' life and ministry? When you look at the difficult or confusing seasons of your own life, how can you look back and proclaim that Jesus "has done all things well"?