Series: Goodnews
Passage: Mark 8:11-21
Sunday: November 1, 2026

Mark 8:11-21(ESV)

[11] The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him. [12] And he sighed deeply in his spirit and said, "Why does this generation seek a sign? Truly, I say to you, no sign will be given to this generation." [13] And he left them, got into the boat again, and went to the other side.

[14] Now they had forgotten to bring bread, and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. [15] And he cautioned them, saying, "Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod." [16] And they began discussing with one another the fact that they had no bread. [17] And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? [18] Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember? [19] When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" They said to him, "Twelve." [20] "And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" And they said to him, "Seven." [21] And he said to them, "Do you not yet understand?"

1. Have you ever overlooked something important because you were so focused on something else? What happened?

2. Why do you think the Pharisees demanded a new sign despite the miracles Jesus had already performed? What does this reveal about the condition of their hearts?

3. Jesus sighed deeply before responding. What do you think caused him such deep grief in this moment?

4. In verses 14-16 the setting changes to a boat, but the Pharisees are still the topic of discussion. In these verses, what does yeast represent? What are the “yeasts” of the Pharisees and Herod?

5. In verses 17-21, Jesus asks a series of questions about the disciples’ hearts, eyes, ears, and memory. Why does He connect remembering His miracles with understanding who He is?

6. How is what Jesus experienced with the Pharisees in verses11-13 the same or different than what he experienced with the disciples in verses 14-21?

7. Have you ever experienced God’s faithfulness in one season, but struggled to trust Him when a new difficulty arose? Why is it easy to forget what God has already done?