

OPEN

What ranks as the most memorable baptism you've seen? What made it memorable?

Mark 8:14-21

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?**"

DISCOVER

Jesus uses questions to reveal what the disciples know and what they believe.

Why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread?

What is Jesus wanting the disciples to focus on instead of bread? See Mark 8:1-15.

Do you not yet perceive or understand?

Are the disciples among those seeking the kingdom or those fighting against God's rule? See Mark 4:10-13.

Are your hearts hardened?

So who has hard hearts? See Mark 3:1-6; 6:45-52.

Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear?

What two different kinds of understanding is Jesus getting at here? See Mark 8:22-25, 7:31-37.

And do you not remember? When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?

And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?

Do you not yet understand?

By taking the disciples back through what they have seen and heard, what is he exposing about their understanding? See Mark 6:34-44 and 8:1-9.

What is message is Jesus communicating with each question?

DEEPEN

Jesus uses questions to lead His hearers to a greater understanding of who He is and what He calls them to believe.

What is the meaning here of "understand"?

What does Jesus want the disciples to remember and understand?

Why is it so difficult to “remember” in the way Jesus wants us to remember?

Martin Luther said, “Remember your baptism!” yet this is impossible for those baptized as infants if it means to remember the details of the event. What did Luther mean?

What makes the difference between an understanding that shapes how we live and an understanding that remains just information?

What is the danger of the disciples not remembering and understanding?

DELIVER

Jesus calls His disciples to act on what He has revealed to them. The disciple responds in faith, trusting Him to accomplish His mission in and through them.

What helps you remember the works of the Lord in your life?

How does understanding and remembering empower you to help others to see and hear the gospel?

Take some time at the end of each day this week to consider:

- What was the high point of your day? Give thanks (James 1:17).

- What was the most difficult aspect of your day? Give thanks (James 1:2-4).

PRAY

Share something you’re thankful for and/or something you would like to see God change.

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“Lord, in your mercy ... hear our pray.”

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