

MOUTHS THAT CANNOT BE SILENT

Pastor Lucas Almeida—Central Baptist Church—April 9th, 2023

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.”

INTRODUCTION

Jesus always uses his power to transform our lives, to transfer us from destitution to dignity.

REVIEW

The Goal of Mark in his gospel is to help the reader understand the Jesus’ identity—the Son of God.

Mark 1:1—*The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.*

Mark shows us that Jesus is the Son of God through his teaching.

Mark shows us that Jesus is the Son of God through his authority.

MUTE

Decapolis

- east shore of the Sea of Galilee
- ten cities
- predominantly Greek/gentile
- Gadarene Demoniac
- **Mark 5:19**—*“Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you.”*

Why is this miracle so important for Mark?

Mogilalos = *speech impediment* (Mark 7:32, Isaiah 35:6 ^{Septuagint})

Isaiah 35:1–6

[1] *The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus;*
[2] *it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and singing.*

*The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.*

*[3] Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.
[4] Say to those who have an anxious heart,
“Be strong; fear not!
Behold, your God
will come with vengeance,
with the recompense of God.
He will come and save you.”*

*[5] Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
[6] then shall the lame man leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the mute sing for joy.*

MIRACLE

What is particularly noticeable in this miracle is Jesus' personable nature.

Matthew 11:28—*Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.*

This miracle is filled with echoes of creation.

Habakkuk 2:14

*For the earth will be filled
with the knowledge of the glory of the LORD
as the waters cover the sea.*

The only thing this man had to offer in exchange for the power of Christ was his brokenness.

“Jesus helps those who recognize they can help themselves.”

MISSIONAL

This man went from mute to missionary.

Matthew 28:19—*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations...*

One of the evidences that you have experienced the power of Christ is that you can't help but speak of the glory of Christ.

Central Baptist Church exists to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ for the hope of the lost, for the edification of the church, and for the glory of God in Christ.