

# MARK THE KING AND THE CROSS

## B. Practical unbelief is forgetting how God provided in the past when faced with a problems in the present.

*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? Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? 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?" They said to him, "Twelve." "And the seven for the four thousand, how many baskets full of broken pieces did you take up?" And they said to him, "Seven." And he said to them, "Do you not yet understand?"*

Mark 8:17-21 (ESV)

## Mark 8:11-21 – Jesus Takes On Unbelief

June 16, 2019

## Application

1. Examine my heart for practical unbelief.
2. Pray like I believe. Read my Bible like I believe. Be part of my church like I believe.
3. Confess my unbelief to Jesus and ask for his strength.

## 1. Rejecting Jesus can lead to hard-hearted unbelief.

*And immediately he got into the boat with his disciples and went to the district of Dalmanutha. Mark 8:10 (ESV)*

### A. Those in hard-hearted unbelief will never have enough evidence.

*The Pharisees came and began to argue with him, seeking from him a sign from heaven to test him. Mark 8:11 (ESV)*

*This man (Nicodemus) came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him."  
John 3:2 (ESV)*

## Life Group Questions

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1. Read Mark 8:11-21 to familiarize yourself with the passage.
  2. Are there areas in your life where you find yourself doubting the power, wisdom, and goodness of the Lord Jesus? Where does the text hit home for you when it calls us to beware of the leaven of unbelief?
  3. Where have you seen God work in your past? What have been the signs of his power, care and love?
  4. What current situation are you facing that he is asking you to trust him today?

### B. Those in hard-hearted unbelief will work together against those who believe.

*And the Pharisees and Sadducees came, and to test him they asked him to show them a sign from heaven. Matthew 16:1 (ESV)*

we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief. Hebrews 3:15–19 (ESV)

### C. Those in hard-hearted unbelief move further away from Jesus, the more evidence they are given.

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.”

Mark 8:12 (ESV)

He answered them, “When it is evening, you say, ‘It will be fair weather, for the sky is red.’ And in the morning, ‘It will be stormy today, for the sky is red and threatening.’ You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times. An evil and adulterous generation seeks for a sign, but no sign will be given to it except the sign of Jonah.” So he left them and departed. Matthew 16:2–4 (ESV)

### D. Those in hard-hearted unbelief must remember; the opportunity to turn to Jesus doesn’t last forever.

And he left them, got into the boat again, and went to the other side.

Mark 8:13 (ESV)

They went on from there and passed through Galilee. And he did not want anyone to know,... Mark 9:30 (ESV)

As it is said, “Today, if you hear his voice, do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion.” For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? So

## 2. Familiarity with Jesus can lead to practical unbelief.

They forgot to bring bread on the trip and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. And he cautioned them, saying, “Watch out; beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod.” Mark 8:14–15 (ESV)

When the disciples reached the other side, they had forgotten to bring any bread. Matthew 16:5 (ESV)

### A. Practical unbelief is being more concerned about little things than our relationship with Jesus.

And they began discussing with one another the fact that they had no bread. Mark 8:16 (ESV)

Therefore do not be anxious, saying, ‘What shall we eat?’ or ‘What shall we drink?’ or ‘What shall we wear?’ For the Gentiles seek after all these things, and your heavenly Father knows that you need them all. But seek first the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be added to you. Matthew 6:31–33 (ESV)