

Mark Series 7

Believe and You Shall Receive

June 13-14, 2013

I. WELCOME, 15 mins.

Prepare a couple simple, fun and delightful icebreakers to help your group warmed up. Help your cell members to put aside their busy & tiresome life, prepare their hearts to come before God.

II. WORSHIP, 20 mins.

Prayerfully choose a few songs that will lead cell members to worship God. The worship leader should encourage cell members to come before the throne of God, see God in face, and lead them into God's presence. During this time, the cell leader will also lead the group to pray aloud for the following prayer items:

A. MISSION ORGANIZATION: _____, and their needs are: _____

(Please contact the church if you don't know the needs of the mission organization.)

B. CHURCH MINISTRY:

- 06/15 Men's Breakfast with Pastor Cheng @ 9:00-11:00 AM
- 07/20 BBQ Outreach

C. New comer: _____ Identify new comers before cell meeting.

Sick members, friends or relatives: _____ Please also discuss how you may show your cares to them.

III. WORD, 45 mins. By sharing God's word, the group may discuss how to apply it to their daily lives.

A. Sharing message from last Sunday's sermon: (It would be helpful if you could listen on-line once again.)

- 1. What is the key message from last Sunday sermon? How God talks to you through the message?**
- 2. How would you respond to the message? What action will you take after listening to the message?**

B. Discussion Topic: Believe and You Shall Receive

Scriptures: Mark 7: 24-37 (Please read Bible verses in turns)

Memorizing Verse: People were overwhelmed with amazement. "He has done everything well." They said. "He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."

(Mark 7: 37)

Foreword:

Jesus called his disciples and said, "Follow me, I will show you how to fish for people." Exactly how do we fish for people? The Lord has shown us in different ways to open our hearts. The Pharisees and the scribes challenged Jesus with the traditional Jewish Law and felt self-righteous. Yet Jesus refuted their erroneous charge with 2 simple things: "Following God's command" and "Purifying man's heart with God's Word." He even performed two miracles to teach his disciples about faith and showed them the principles to know more about God.

1. Faith is accompanied by actions (Mark 7:24-30)

1) Faith comes from hearing what the Lord has done: (7: 24-26):

The daughter of a Gentile woman was possessed by an impure spirit and was in a miserable state. As soon as the woman heard about what Jesus can do, she had faith in him because she knew that Jesus has authority to cast out the impure spirit. [Romans 10:17 – Faith comes from hearing the message, and the message is heard through the word about Christ.]

2) Faith means to be totally submissive to God's Word (7:27)

Jesus said, "First let the children eat all they want, for it's not right to take the children's bread and toss it to the dogs." The Jews used to see the Gentiles as dogs. By saying this, Jesus meant to explain the priority of his work: First the Jews, second the Gentiles. (Romans 1:13) It is obvious that Jesus must have said it gently, so instead of feeling insulted or angry, she accepted Jesus' priority of work and submitted. She pleaded even harder and eventually received healing from God.

3) Faith knows our undeserving (7:28-30)

Basically, prideful people always feel that they deserve the healings and graces from God. Nevertheless, the prideful

people can hardly be healed, not because they do not have faith, but because they think they deserve it. On the contrary, the woman clearly understood that she didn't deserve it and humbly pleaded to God. Her humbleness made healing on the Gentiles possible!

2. The Lord Jesus can heal the deaf and the mute (Mark 7:31-37)
 - 1) Jesus has the authority of healing (7:31-32): People often come before God for healing; they asked God to heal them the way they desire. They do not know that all they need is faith, and it's up to God how he will heal them.
 - 2) Jesus' unique healing method (7:33-35): In addition to laying hands on the sick, Jesus always used a unique new way to heal. Therefore, trust the Lord with faith, leave the healing to God and experience His dynamic guidance and continuous grace.
3. Miracles help people to believe (Mark 7:36-37): The miracles Jesus did truly amazed people and led them to believe. Just as what was said in Isaiah 35:5-6, "Then will the eyes of the blind be opened and the ears of the deaf unstopped. Then will the lame leap like a deer and the mute tongue shout for joy. Water will gush forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert."

Discussion:

1. Have you ever had the experience of being healed? Please share with us.
2. What lesson of faith have you learned from the Gentile woman?
3. Jesus casted the impure spirit from the little girl by simple saying it.; why then did Jesus heal the deaf and the mute with such big trifle? Exactly what we are taught?
4. Why Jesus should took the deaf and mute aside to heal him? What do you think the onlookers would react if they saw how he healed?
5. How can we experience more of the Lord's Almighty healing in our cell group?

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, we thank you and we praise you! Although we as your followers don't necessarily understand the principle of how you work and what you think, we understand that you have been reminded us with your Word. You never fail to help us understand better through your work. O Lord! Help us to enhance our faith, so that we may experience the truth of "believe and you shall receive." You are to guide us in this crooked and rebellious generation to keep experiencing the fullness of your riches and grace. Thank you, Jesus, for your guidance. We pray in Jesus name. Amen!

IV. WORK (Pray for each other), 10 mins.

Please break into group of 2 or 3 to pray for each other's needs.