

Unbelief Permeates

Mark 8:11-21

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I. The Pharisees ask for a sign. *Mark 8:11-12*

The kind of **testing** the Pharisees were doing to Jesus comes from doubt, demanding something of God, to _____ Himself. **Numbers 14:22**

- Jesus didn't trust in these people's belief, because He knew their belief in miracles would not create an _____ trust in Him. **John 2:23-24**

II. Beware of leaven. *Mark 8:13-15*

Leaving the Pharisees was an act of _____ from Jesus, as He left the religious leaders because of their unbelief.

- Jesus proclaimed the only promised sign that would have the power to bring people to _____ would be His resurrection. **Matthew 16:4**

The Pharisees were very strict on obeying the Laws of God; but then, they began to _____ the Word of God by adding to it. **Deuteronomy 4:2**

- The Pharisees added to God's Word; but, the Sadducees _____ from the Word of God. **Revelation 22:18-19**

III. The Disciples misunderstand Jesus. *Mark 8:15-21*

The word "**beware**" in **vs. 15** means to _____ open your eyes to a situation and to guard against the threat.

- **Leaven grows quietly, rotting and causing gases to build up within the dough as the dough is puffed up;** in the same way, sin _____ the body from the inside out, as the person is puffed up.

The Disciples began to quietly reason that Jesus knew they forgot the bread; and notice, Jesus _____ their whispers.

IV. Practical Application.

1. Beware and understand the dangerous _____ and practices of the Sadducees and Pharisees.
2. Jesus corrected the Disciples on their lack of faith, _____ about their lack of bread.
3. Jesus told them to _____ what He has done in the past, as they seemed to forget the miracles, He had already done.

As Christ followers, we must be _____ not to change, or add to God's Word. We are to love and respect it to the extent, that when fake doctrine comes along we recognize it immediately.

- As Christ followers, we must also **beware** of the **leaven** of _____; it can rot away our faith and it can even prevent us from having saving faith that leads to everlasting life.

Small Group Discussion

Looking back at your notes from this week's sermon, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged or confused you?

1. Read **Mark 8:11-12**. What was the intention of the Pharisees and Sadducees in asking Jesus to show them a sign from heaven?
Matthew 16:1-4, Matthew 12:38-39, Luke 11:16, 29, Luke 12:54-56, John 2:18, John 4:48
2. Read **Mark 8:12** and **Matthew 16:4**. What does the sign of Jonah represent, and why is that the sign that will be given to the wicked generation?
Matthew 12:39-41
3. Read **Mark 8:16-17**. What did the disciples forget to bring? How did Jesus respond to their whispering? Jesus tells His disciples to "**take heed**," which means to constantly open your eyes and to guard against the threat. What were they to guard against?
1 Corinthians 5:6-7, Hebrews 4:12-13
4. Discuss the differences within the belief systems of the Pharisee and Sadducees.
Acts 23:8, Deuteronomy 4:2, Revelation 22:18-19, Psalm 119:160
5. Read **Mark 8:15-21**. Discuss some of the different occasions Jesus was misunderstood.
John 3:1-17, Luke 2:49-50, Mark 3:20-21, Matthew 15:11-15, John 2:19-21
6. Discuss the dangers of unbelief as you discuss the practical points of the sermon.