MARKED BY CRITICISM OR A CRUMB

Marked – Week 18
February 13, 2022

KEY SCRIPTURES

- Mark 7
- Isaiah 35:5-6

KEY POINTS

- Jesus is challenged by the religious leaders for not following tradition.
- He begins to tell all and then teach His disciples that defilement comes out of the heart.
- We cannot not gain access to God by tradition. Legalism is founded on non-scriptural laws placed on believers.
- Jesus encounters a woman in a gentile nation who needs deliverance for her little girl.
- Jesus in this moment leaves the 99 in Israel to save the one. He came for the Jew first and then the Gentile.
- What seems like a rude statement does not phase the woman, and she asks Jesus for a crumb.
- Pride will keep us independent and critical. Pride always elevates us over others, including God.
- Humility is knowing that we are not worthy and need salvation.
- Jesus then heals a deaf mute by opening his ears and loosening his tongue. Notice his sigh.
- Our ears have been opened by His Spirit and our tongues have been loosed to praise and to testify!

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Can you identify with the scribes? Have you placed unnecessary laws on yourself or others?
2. Do you struggle with being critical? If yes, are you critical of others or self?
3. When you are called out, can you feel pride rise up? Why did this woman remain in a place of need and not get offended?
4. When Jesus heals the deaf and mute man, He sighs. What does this sigh say to you?