

# FURTHER STUDY GUIDE

## From Outsiders to Overflow | Mark 7:24-8:10

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Up to this point, most of Jesus' ministry has been among the Jews. But here we begin to see something unfold:

- Jesus engages a Gentile woman
- He heals a man in a Gentile region
- He feeds a likely Gentile crowd

This is not accidental—it's intentional.

Mark is showing us that the grace of Jesus is expanding beyond Israel to the nations.

### ICEBREAKER QUESTION

Have you ever felt like an outsider in a group or situation? What made you feel that way—and how did you respond?

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# GROUP DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

## The Syrophenician Woman (7:24–30)

- 1. What stands out to you about the way Jesus initially responds to the woman? Why might that feel surprising or even uncomfortable?

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- 2. How does the woman respond—and what does her response reveal about her understanding of Jesus?

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- 3. What can we learn from her persistence, especially when God seems silent or distant?

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## Healing of the Deaf Man (7:31–37)

- 4. Why do you think Jesus takes the man aside and heals him in such a personal, physical way? What does that reveal about Him?

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5. What might Jesus' deep sigh communicate about His heart toward human suffering?

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6. In what ways do people today try to "fix" themselves instead of bringing their brokenness to Jesus?

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**Feeding of the Four Thousand (8:1–10)**

7. Why do you think the disciples are still confused about how to feed the crowd, even after witnessing a similar miracle earlier?

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8. What does this story reveal about Jesus' compassion and priorities?

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9. Where do you tend to feel like you "don't have enough," and how does this passage challenge that mindset?

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# PERSONAL DEVOTION

Take a few quiet moments to reflect honestly:

- Where do I feel like an outsider right now?
- What area of my life feels broken or beyond fixing?
- Where do I feel like I don't have enough?

Now consider this:

In this passage, Jesus:

- Welcomes the outsider
- Restores the broken
- Provides for the needy

Which of those do you need most right now?

## QUESTIONS | REFLECTIONS | OBSERVATIONS

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