

MARK 8:22-33

Interim Teaching Elder/Pastor Joe Bennett ■ Grace Bible Church ■ March 1, 2026

1. Recognize that _____
(22-26)

2. Believe in _____
(27-30)

3. Gladly follow _____
(31-33)

Mark 8:22-33

²² And they came to Bethsaida. And some people brought to him a blind man and begged him to touch him. ²³ And he took the blind man by the hand and led him out of the village, and when he had spit on his eyes and laid his hands on him, he asked him, "Do you see anything?" ²⁴ And he looked up and said, "I see people, but they look like trees, walking." ²⁵ Then Jesus laid his hands on his eyes again; and he opened his eyes, his sight was restored, and he saw everything clearly. ²⁶ And he sent him to his home, saying, "Do not even enter the village." ²⁷ And Jesus went on with his disciples to the villages of Caesarea Philippi. And on the way he asked his disciples, "Who do people say that I am?" ²⁸ And they told him, "John the Baptist; and others say, Elijah; and others, one of the prophets." ²⁹ And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." ³⁰ And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him. ³¹ And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again. ³² And he said this plainly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and seeing his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are not setting your mind on the things of God, but on the things of man."

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are for further study and application of today's text of Scripture. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to these questions will help to drive home the point of today's study. One of the best ways to grow as a disciple is by discussing these types of questions in a small group. Find a small group here: gracebiblecw.com/lifegroup or ask someone next to you if you can join their group!

- 1) The sermon began with the story of Elisha's servant seeing an army of angels only after his eyes were opened. Read 2 Corinthians 4:18. Paul tells us to "fix our eyes not on what is seen, but on what is unseen." What "visible" problem is currently taking up most of your focus, and what "invisible" spiritual truth from this sermon do you need to look at instead?
- 2) God's ways are always purposeful, even when they are painful. Looking back at a past season of suffering, can you now see a purpose that was "behind the curtain" at the time? How does that memory help you trust Him with a current struggle?
- 3) Read 1 Peter 1:6-7 and Romans 5:3-6 and Romans 8:29. What do we learn from these passages about some of God's purposes in the midst of our sufferings/struggles?
- 4) Read Mark 8:31-33. Jesus rebuked Peter for focusing on human concerns (safety, comfort, success) rather than God's concerns (sacrifice, salvation, the cross). What is one "thing of man" (e.g., financial security, reputation, a perfect family image) that frequently distracts you from seeking God's kingdom first? What is one practical thing you can do this week to help set your mind on things of God?