Date: October 18, 2026
Series: Mark: The Sovereign, Suffering Servant
Title: Eyes to See, Ears to Hear
Text: Mark 8:14-26

HARBOUR SHORES CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

"For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face.
Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as I have been fully known.
So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love."
(1 Corinthians 13:12-13)

Note: Any measure of spiritual sight and understanding is a GIFT from God!

(Ezekiel 12:1-2 and Ephesians 1:18-19)

I. EYES TO SEE AND EARS TO HEAR

Mark 8:14-15 -

1) Jesus' Relevant Warning: Bad teaching, corrupt ways of thinking, and deceptive philosophies can creep in unnoticed and cause massive spiritual harm!

Note: Leaven, or yeast, works invisibly, is potent and powerful,
and gradually infiltrates and influences everything!

Note: The Pharisees were marked by a self-righteous pride that made them
hardened and resistant to God's grace. Herod was consumed with lust,
immoral behavior, a fear of man, and the drive to control everyone around him.

(Romans 3:23; Romans 3:10-12; 1 Peter 5:5; John 7:37-38; John 8:12, 31-32; Psalm 16:11)

Mark 8:16 -

2) The Disciples' Distracted Confusion: They were so preoccupied with their immediate physical needs that they failed to see the goodness, wisdom, and sufficiency of Jesus.

"…seek first the kingdom of God and His righteousness,
and all these things will be added to you."
(Matthew 6:33)

Mark 8:17-21 -

3) Jesus' Convicting Questions: Jesus wants His Disciples to "see" their spiritual blindness, acknowledge their hardness of heart, and humbly admit that they are not yet thinking rightly about Him.

(Philippians 1:6; 1 John 3:2-3; John 17:17)

Mark 8:22-26 -

4) The Miraculous Illustration: Any and every degree of sight is a gracious gift from Jesus! He is the Light by which we see and HE is what we need to see!

"For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, 'Let light shine out of darkness,' has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ."
(2 Corinthians 4:5-6)

Questions for Further Study, Reflection, and Application…

1. What was Jesus' point about "leaven", in verse 15?
2. Why didn't the Disciples understand what Jesus was talking about?
3. How do you evaluate spiritual sight and spiritual understanding? What is the criteria? Are you spiritually blind? How would you know?
4. Why does Jesus ask so many questions in verses 17-21? What is trying to help His Disciples see?
5. Why do you think that Jesus heals this blind man in stages/steps? What is being illustrated?