

The Book of Mark: The Value of Simple Faith

¹¹ *The Pharisees came and began to question Jesus. To test him, they asked him for a sign from heaven.* ¹² *He sighed deeply and said, "Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to it."* ¹³ *Then he left them, got back into the boat and crossed to the other side.*

¹⁴ *The disciples had forgotten to bring bread, except for one loaf they had with them in the boat.* ¹⁵ *"Be careful," Jesus warned them. "Watch out for the yeast of the Pharisees and that of Herod."*

¹⁶ *They discussed this with one another and said, "It is because we have no bread."*

¹⁷ *Aware of their discussion, Jesus asked them: "Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not see or understand? Are your hearts hardened?"* ¹⁸ *Do you have eyes but fail to see, and ears but fail to hear? And don't you remember?"* ¹⁹ *When I broke the five loaves for the five thousand, how many basketfuls of pieces did you pick up?"*

"Twelve," they replied.

²⁰ *"And when I broke the seven loaves for the four thousand, how many basketfuls of pieces did you pick up?"*

They answered, "Seven."

²¹ *He said to them, "Do you still not understand?"*

Mark 8:11-21 (NIV)

! There is a difference between not _____ to see and _____ to see.

The Pharisees and Sadducees came to Jesus and tested him by asking him to show them a sign from heaven.

² *He replied, "When evening comes, you say, 'It will be fair weather, for the sky is red,' ³ and in the morning, 'Today it will be stormy, for the sky is red and overcast.' You know how to interpret the appearance of the sky, but you cannot interpret the signs of the times. ⁴ A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah." Jesus then left them and went away.*

Matthew 16:1-4 (NIV)

! _____ faith is better than _____ for _____.

Now while he was in Jerusalem at the Passover Festival, many people saw the signs he was performing and believed in his name.

John 2:23 (NIV)

Jews demand signs and Greeks look for wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified: a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles,

1 Corinthians 1:22-24 (NIV)

So when the Samaritans came to him, they urged him to stay with them, and he stayed two days. ⁴¹ And because of his words many more became believers.

John 4:40-41 (NIV)

*“Unless you people see signs and wonders,” Jesus told him, “you will never believe.”
John 4:48 (NIV)*

*For false messiahs and false prophets will appear and perform great signs and wonders to deceive, if possible, even the elect. ²⁵ See, I have told you ahead of time.
Matthew 24:24 (NIV)*

*The coming of the lawless one will be in accordance with how Satan works. He will use all sorts of displays of power through signs and wonders that serve the lie, ¹⁰ and all the ways that wickedness deceives those who are perishing. They perish because they refused to love the truth and so be saved.
2 Thessalonians 2:9-10 (NIV)*

*Then Jesus told him, “Because you have seen me, you have believed; blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed.”
John 20:29 (NIV)*