**Sermon Notes – Insurrection Series**

**“He does all things well.”**

**Mark 7:31–37**

**31 Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. 32 There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged him to place his hand on the man.**

**33 After he took him aside, away from the crowd, Jesus put his fingers into the man’s ears. Then he spit and touched the man’s tongue. 34 He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, *“Ephphatha!”* (which means, “Be opened!”). 35 At this, the man’s ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly.**

**36 Jesus commanded them not to tell anyone. But the more he did so, the more they kept talking about it. 37 People were overwhelmed with amazement. “He has done everything well,” they said. “He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak.”**

***v. 31 Jesus sends his disciples into \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ territory.***

 ***-Following Jesus means taking \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.***

***v. 32 We tend to only want to help people who \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. Jesus doesn’t heal, bless, engage, or help people based on this criteria.***

**“could hardly talk” *mogilalos (Isaiah 35:1-6)***

***v. 33 Jesus took the man aside in order to \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ with him.***

**v. 33-34 Jesus \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ in order to transform this man’s life.**

**v. 36 Jesus doesn’t want people seeking him for his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, but his \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_.**

**“He does all things well.”**

Isaiah 35:4

4 *say to those with fearful hearts,*

*“Be strong, do not fear;*

*your God will come,*

*he will come with vengeance;*

*with divine retribution*

*he will come to save you.”*

**Questions for Discussion**

1. What new idea or insight were you given as a result of this message? How does that new idea challenge you in your understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus?

2. In this passage we see Jesus entering into the area known as the Decapolis, a thoroughly Gentile (i.e. ungodly) area. What lessons do you suppose Jesus wants his disciples-in-training to learn from this trip?

3. Jesus often equates faith with taking meaningful risks. When was the last time you took a significant risk as it related to following Jesus? What was the result?

4. Do you agree that most of us tend to only want to help those who deserve it? Why or why not?

5. What are some principles and practices Christians could learn from reflecting on Jesus’ interaction with this man?

6. What are the kinds of initiatives our church can take that would lead our community into experiencing God’s goodness and mercy?