

STUDY NOTES

SUMMER 2019

at New City Church

www.newcityphx.com/sermons

The following content is based on the message "Healing and Hope" on 6/23/19 at New City Church in Phoenix, AZ. The following is not meant to be a full synopsis but rather a brief look at the main ideas. To use this Study Guide effectively you must listen to the message found at <http://newcityphx.com/sermons/>.

Leaders using these study notes for group study and reflection should read the Biblical text thoroughly before beginning, using this resource as assistance and not relying solely on this material for insight. We encourage all leaders to pray and ask the Spirit for revelation as they lead their respective community groups.

PRAYER

Pray and ask God to lead the discussion as everyone gets to share.

SCRIPTURE: MARK 7:31-37

JESUS COMES TO YOU GRACIOUSLY

Jesus goes into hurting areas and engages with hurting people. We might become numb to that, but this is an account of a real man with real pain. Through his whole life this man was defined by brokenness, but Jesus engages with him and brings healing and hope. Jesus comes to this man graciously. He pulled the man aside. Jesus could have made a spectacle of the situation, but he doesn't. Why not? Because this guy's whole life was a spectacle.

- *Why should it matter to each of us that Jesus pulled this man aside to heal him?*

Are we afraid that if we let our brokenness out, that we will be made a spectacle? If we are honest with ourselves, then most of us are probably afraid to let our brokenness arise because we are afraid that we will be rejected.

- *How do you respond when someone is honest with you about their brokenness?*

JESUS COMES TO YOU PERSONALLY

Jesus engages with this man personally. The way he does it seems weird, but Jesus knew that the man needed to be healed in this way. Just imagine, this man couldn't hear words. He needed to be touched. Jesus came to this man personally.

Jesus comes to you in the exact way that you need him.

- *Why don't we usually allow Jesus to work in the way that we need him to work?*

JESUS COMES TO YOU EMPATHETICALLY

Jesus comes to this man empathetically. The text tells us that Jesus let out a sigh (or a deep inward groan) before he healed the man. Jesus didn't need to sigh to heal this man, but it shows us that Jesus felt this man's pain.

Jesus carries the hurt of others.

- *In what ways do you try to carry your hurt all by yourselves?*
- *What do you have to do to allow Jesus to carry your hurt?*

JESUS COMES TO YOU POWERFULLY

Jesus heals this man, not only with empathy but also with power. He comes alongside us and then doesn't leave us there. But sometimes Jesus uses other people to move us from where we are. There are two types of people; those who are hurting and those who help. We know people who need the power of healing and hope, but they may never come to Jesus in their own.

God has placed you where he has you to bring the hurting to Jesus.

- *There are hurting people around you everywhere. In what ways can you see that God has placed you right where you are care for hurting people around you?*
- *Pray for those who are hurting around you.*