

## BE VULNERABLE

**#6** Part of Jesus' warning to the disciples was about what they were feeding themselves. He warned them not to adopt the attitude, heart, or teachings of the Pharisees. How would you describe the influences that you have been feeding yourself with, recently? What have you been reading, watching, or listening to, and what is it producing in you?

**#7** Moving forward this week, we don't want to just have a soft heart, but also a *productive* one. What is one way you can change the "recipe" of how you respond to stress or conflict, so that you are offering others the bread of the Kingdom rather than the leaven of the Pharisees?

## PRAYER REQUESTS

(Commit to pray for at least 3 prayer requests from your Life Group)

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# A YEAR WITH JESUS

Rev. Daniel Lanning  
April 26, 2026  
A Year with Jesus: Part 17  
springfieldfaithcenter.org/sermons

## MIRACLES: FOOD FOR THE HUNGRY

Mark 8:1-21

### The Feeding:

Mark 8:1-9, Matthew 15:32-38, Exodus 16:1-21

1. Signs always *point* to something more *important* than themselves.

### The Questioning:

Mark 8:10-13, Matthew 16:1-4, Jonah

2. A *hard* heart will *blind* us to good signs, and what they point to.

### The Confusion:

Mark 8:14-21, Matthew 16:5-12, Matthew 13:33

3. Hard hearts make *terrible bread*.

### Conclusion:

- ⇒ What sort of *bread* am I *giving* away?

## LIFE GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

For the week of April 26, 2026

### QUICK REVIEW

Looking back at your notes from this week's teaching, was there anything that particularly caught your attention, challenged, or confused you?

### BE FRIENDLY

**#1** If you could have a "sign" that it was going to be a perfect, smooth-sailing day, what would that look like? (e.g., getting every green light on your way to work, seeing a sunny sky, or finding a perfect parking spot)

### BE OPEN

**#2** Can you think of a time in your life when you were so focused on a specific outcome you wanted, that you completely missed some other good thing that was happening instead?

**#3** The Pharisees wanted a sign from heaven, but Jesus refused because their hearts were hard. Why do you think it's so easy for us to demand that God work in ways that match our desires?

Why is it so hard to set our desires aside long enough to see what God might actually be doing?

**#4** Psalm 95 references Exodus 17, where the Israelites complain that God isn't providing for them in exactly the way they would like:

#### **Psalm 95:7-9, NIV**

*<sup>7</sup>For he is our God and we are the people of his pasture, the flock under his care. Today, **if only you would hear his voice,** <sup>8</sup>**“Do not harden your hearts as you did at Meribah, as you did that day at Massah in the wilderness,** <sup>9</sup>**where your ancestors tested me; they tried me, though they had seen what I did.***

Why is it that we can be in the middle of a blessing and still have a heart that is stiff or resistant? Is there anything that softens your heart in those moments?

**#5** As Pastor Daniel said in the message, hard hearts make terrible bread:

#### **Matthew 7:9-12, NIV**

*<sup>9</sup>**“Which of you, if your son asks for bread, will give him a stone? <sup>10</sup>Or if he asks for a fish, will give him a snake? <sup>11</sup>If you, then, though you are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good gifts to those who ask him! <sup>12</sup>So in everything, do to others what you would have them do to you, for this sums up the Law and the Prophets.***

If you had to be honest, what have the people around you been tasting recently? What sort of bread have you been giving away?

Why do you think that is? What has been affecting the flavor of your "bread?"