

Jesus Does Everything Well

1. Personally 2. Mercifully 3. Purposefully

Jesus Does Everything Well

- **Vs. 37ab.** That's what ppl said when saw this amzng mrcel. Here's this grown man, either been deaf from birth; or when little boy, ear infctn just wouldn't heal, destryd sense hearing. So now lives in total silence ev day; can't hear a thing. Not even own voice; so can't speak. And when does speak: just garbled mumbling. No one can undrstnd what saying; chldrn scared of him; adults don't know how communct w/him. He's severely handicapped. Until now; until J. **Vs. 37bc.**
- And we agree! JDEW. We see it here in healing of deaf/mute man; again/again in life/min of J; in our own lives: JDEW. And my prayer is that in this reading, we would see how JDEW: 123.

Personally

- 1st, persnly. **Vs. 31.** J been here in Decpls before; not long ago, either. Back in Mk 5: man possessd by demon; drove out, into herd pigs, who rushed down steep bank, drowned in Sea/Gal. That man: so thnkfl, asked follow J. J: no, want you stick around here in own community, tell evrone what Lord's done for you. So in Mk 5 hear: **"The man went away and began to tell in the Decpls how much J had done for him. And all the ppl were amazed"** (20). Now in ch 7, J back in Decpls. And he's got a reptn for being a healer – which is why: **vs. 32.** J, could you just touch him, w/hand? Your hand brings healing/blessing. Could just touch?
- J did smthng more: **vs. 33a**, to be w/him persnly. Got him away fr commotion. Remem: guy's deaf; so probly confused; doesn't know what's going on: why's evone so excited, why dragging me before this stranger? Try put self in man's shoes: if you unable verbalize what's on your mind (can't speak at all); and if you cannot hear what ppl saying to you (or take step further: lot ppl proply just ignore you; given up even trying commnct w/you bec know you can't hear anyway) – that'd be incrdly frustrtng! He didn't have modrn resourcs we have today, like: sign lang, hearng aids, speech therapy, ADA. So J takes him aside, one/one, persnly. They're by selves; crowd's over there – already J is commnctng compssion non-verbly. Next: **vs. 33b**, as way saying: I know you can't hear w/ears, but I'm about change that. Then **"spit,"** presumably into own fingers, and **vs. 33c.** And I know: sounds gross! But he's done this before: J used spit heal blind man in Bethsaida in Mk 8, & anothr blind man in Jrslm in Jn 9 (Bible study today! Come!). So J uses spit. Why? Again, this: non-verbl commnctn. I'm about to fix your tongue. And all this: very personal. J deals w/this man indivdly, persnly.
- J deals w/us persnly, too. Knows exctly what's hurtng/bothrng you; knows exctly how help you. He takes you aside, one/one, away fr crowd, & helps you w/your spcific needs. Some you facing serious health concrns; some dealing w/fam troubles; some mournng death loved one. Cousin. And what I want you see in this les: J loves/cares re you persnly! Takes you aside to be w/you, indivdly, to help you w/your needs. You're not just random hurtng soul in sea/humnty to J. You matter to J, persnly.

Mercifully

- J also DEW mercfly. After touched ears/tongue, **vs. 34-sigh** (he's visibly emotnl re this; wearng hrt on sleeve), ...**34.** These: very syllbls J spoke. This: Aramaic, lang J spoke. Back in Mk 5, when J raised Jairus' dghtr, we have more Aramaic: **Talitha koum** (little girl, get up); again, very syllbls J spoke. Here: **Eph** (opened). And **vs. 35.** That's mercy! And when J speaks, mirclcs hap, bec J word is pwrfl! In begnng, J: **"let there be..."**; and w/wrd created universe. When J on boat w/disc in storm, said **"Quiet, be still;"** w/wrd calmed storm. When J stood outside tomb friend Laz (dead 4 days), shoutd **"Laz, come out;"** w/wrd, dead man came back life, walkd out tomb. Now, in front this deaf man, J: **Eph, opened** (he's deaf; can't even hear words!); and w/wrd, J restores hearing & speech (organs man from now on will use hear/share Gos). When J speaks, mirclcs hap, bec J word is pwrfl!

- J's pwrfl word has mercfly wrkd mrcls in your life, as well. By nature you were sprtly deaf. Your ears: closed; you: unable & unwilling to listen God's voice or hear msg/salvtn. But then J spoke, and a mircl hapnd! In mercy J called you to faith, opened your ears, so that you could hear/bel Gos of God's love for you. When you baptized, J spoke a mrcl; said, you now: belong to F,S,HS; redeemed child/God; can hear voice/God by faith. *Eph*, your ears are now open – that's mercy! When receive HC, J speaks a mrcl. Doesn't touch tongue w/spit but w/his very bdy/bld, and says: you are forgvn – that's mercy! When J speaks, mircls hap, bec J's word is pwrfl. And J has worked the mircls of faith & forgiveness in your life, mercifully.

Purposefully

- Finally, JDEW pursfly. After this amzng mircl, vs. 37a. But vs. 36a. Why?! Why tell man who hasn't been able speak entire life and now finly has speech restrd – why tell him be quiet? And this excited crowd that witnessed mrcl – why silence them? J's done this before; back in Mk 1, when healed man of leprosy: **“J sent him away at once w/a strong warnng: ‘See that you don't tell this to anyone’” (43-44)**. And he ignrd, just like these ppl ignrd; spread wrd anyway. But why'd J want this kpt quiet?
- Well, remem what hapnd right after J fed 5k? In Jn 6: **“J, knowing that they intendd to come and make him kng by force, withdrew again to a mntn by himself” (15)**. Didn't want ppl misundrstd his real purps. Didn't come be earthly kng; didn't come just to heal sick, feed hungry. He came be our Sav: to heal us from sickness/sin, feed our hungry souls w/Gos. Came to give life on cross, rise fr dead for our salvtn. And doesn't want anythng to get in way of that mission/purps. So here: J tells ppl keep quiet re this mircl, so that they focus on him not just as healer, but as their Sav.
- That's imp lesson for us all. When we're sick/suffrng, we do turn to J for healing, and he is the one who heals us. In fact, any physcl healing of the body comes only from the one who created our bodies in first place. And we thank God for gift of modern medcn, which he uses to heal us. But finally, J real purpose for coming this earth: rescue us from sin & hell by death & res. And what he wants is for us to trust in him: not only for physical healing, but also for sprtl healing.
- JDEW: for deaf man & for us. Does evthng 123. And this is not smthng we should keep to ourselves. No longer does J want us to be silent. We want get out and tell world the msg/Gos: that JDEW.

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 Jesus to place his hand on him.

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.”

He has done
ALL THINGS
well