



## **Westminster Presbyterian Church**

### **Digging Deeper Questions**

March 4, 2018

Scripture: Psalm 19:1-6, 14 & Mark 8:22-30

**Week “3”:** Reflecting on both the WPC Sermon from March 4 and “Week 3” of N.T. Wright’s *Lent for Everyone: Mark, Year B*.

#### **Open in Prayer**

**Fellowship Question:** If you lost your sight, what would you miss the most?

#### **Study Questions for the Sermon and Text:**

- 1) Re-read Mark 8:22-26.
  - a) Pastor Dave talked some about the significance of the blind man receiving sight being a two-part miracle. First he sees in part, (“trees walking around”) and then his vision is fully restored. What might we learn from the progression of how this man received sight?
  - b) Why do you think, after Jesus heals the blind man, he encourages him to go home and not into the village?
- 2) Re-Read Mark 8:27-30.
  - a) What are some labels or titles that are given to Jesus in today’s world?
  - b) Why do you think Jesus asks the disciples about his identity, instead of just telling them?
  - c) How have your perceptions of who Jesus was and is changed throughout your life?
- 3) In the “Week 3: Monday” section of N.T. Wright’s devotional, he reflects on Mark 7:1-13 and the traditions that many of the Jewish people of Jesus’ day held. In verse 9, Jesus says, “you have a fine way of setting aside God’s command so as to maintain your tradition.” What are some of our traditions (family, church, country)? Why might it be important to hold some of those traditions loosely?
- 4) In “Week 3: Tuesday” Wright focuses on Mark 7:14-23, where Jesus says, “nothing outside a person can defile them by going into them. Rather, it is what comes out of a person that defies them.” Purity laws were incredibly important for first century Jews. What is Jesus saying about purity here?
- 5) In “Week 3: Wednesday” Wright reflects on Jesus healing the daughter of a Syrophenician (non-Jew) woman (Mark 7:24-37). He writes, “Lent is a good time to rediscover the habit of persistence in prayer, of not taking an apparent ‘no’ for a final answer.” How does the Syrophenician woman show persistence? What does it look like for us to be persistent in prayer today?

**Prayer:**

- Prayers for the Chatterton and Fish Families
- Pray for those in our church family who are undergoing treatments or sickness of any kind.

**Leader notes:**

- Maundy Thursday Dinner; March 29 at 6pm
- Maundy Thursday Service will begin at 7:30pm
- Good Friday; Prayer Garden open for reflection and Journey to the Cross from noon – 7:30pm
- Good Friday Service will begin at 7:30pm