

I. Introduction:

- A.** Tonight we continue along a mini-series that I hope will give a bit more in-depth insight into specific aspects that make Jesus so glorious. As Christians, we typically embrace the gospel and life of Christ in a more generalized way (which we should), but drilling down into the specifics of what Jesus was and is like is also an immensely valuable journey that deepens our understanding of and love for Him, and serves to further magnify His greatness. Sort of how when we look at a little drop of lake water under a microscope and are amazed by how much is really going on in there, when we put Jesus under the microscope, He only gets better. Over the next few weeks, we will look at things like the words of Christ, the works of Christ, and more.
- B.** Often times, when a Christian thinks of Jesus, it's in terms of what He has done for us, or what He is doing for us now or in the future. We tend to view Him as a consumer, what He did for me and what He will do for me. Not to minimize the importance of things like salvation and justification, or ecclesiology and eschatology, but we must also view Jesus as someone with a personality and temperament—a real person to get to know. Someone to be friends with, in other words. Imagine sitting near a campfire, just Him and you. Imagine the conversation you would have. What does He say? What does that moment feel like? **What does He do for you?** Getting to know Him is so important to our lifelong journey with Him. Getting to know Jesus in this specific way is one of the untapped wells—a well that is bottomless and full of living water. Let's learn to appreciate not only what Jesus has done for us, but also who He is and what He's like. Thus, this miniseries.

II. Scripture passages:

Mark 7:31-37 | ³¹ Again, departing from the region of Tyre and Sidon, He came through the midst of the region of Decapolis to the Sea of Galilee. ³² Then they brought to Him one who was deaf and had an impediment in his speech, and they begged Him to put His hand on him. ³³ And He took him aside from the multitude, and put His fingers in his ears, and He spat and touched his tongue. ³⁴ Then, looking up to heaven, He sighed, and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” ³⁵ Immediately his ears were opened, and the impediment of his tongue was loosed, and he spoke plainly. ³⁶ Then He commanded them that they should tell no one; but the more He commanded them, the more widely they proclaimed it. ³⁷ And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, “He has done all things well. He makes both the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

- The reaction to the things Jesus did as He itinerated throughout various regions during His ministry were nothing short of astonishment. Everywhere Jesus went, miracles happened. Nobody had seen anything like this. He spoke with authority and did things nobody else was doing.

Luke 4:35-37 | ³⁵ But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be quiet, and come out of him!” And when the demon had thrown him in their midst, it came out of him and did not hurt him. ³⁶ Then they were all amazed and spoke among themselves, saying, “What a word this is! For with authority and power He commands the unclean spirits, and they come out.” ³⁷ And the report about Him went out into every place in the surrounding region.

- We must not forget that Jesus has never stopped doing amazing things with power and authority. He still works in this same way through His church today, including in our own lives.

III. Insights for our consideration tonight:

- 1. Past (historical) deeds:** Jesus did many things in the past that reveal His divinity, and that He is the fulfillment of that which was prophesied in Old Testament Scripture. He is the Messiah of Israel, the One who brings together and completes messianic prophecy and biblical expectation. For the last 2,000 years, Jesus has been building His church as He promised.
- 2. Present deeds:** Jesus has not changed, and though He is not physically present, He has sent His Spirit. We should expect a continuation of His life and ministry in our life and ministry. Jesus' power has not diminished or ceased to operate simply because He is in Heaven. God does change by virtue of time passing. Just because the gospel and Acts narrative are 2,000 years old, we should not conclude that He has somehow become
- 3. Personal deeds:** As a Servant, Jesus seeks to work in our lives in a personal way. He relates to us in a humble spirit of servitude despite being the living God. This does not mean He is our butler who does our every bidding, but that He cherishes us and seeks to serve us just as He did the disciples.

Help me improve my notes! The first person to point out a legitimate mistake/typo on this document (during service) gets \$1.

Greater Peoria House of Prayer Announcements for February 11, 2022.

1. **Welcome** to the Greater Peoria House of Prayer... we're glad you're here and blessed to be worshipping God with you! Be sure to pick up the **free** materials at the back table in the prayer room or the desk near the front of the downstairs fellowship area, which includes teaching notes, stickers, pens, prayer cards and more. **Daily schedule:** We have morning prayer right here in this room seven days a week from 7-8 a.m. Monday - Friday and 8-9 a.m. Saturday and Sunday. We have afternoon prayer four days a week: Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 11:30 a.m. - noon. We have evening prayer with live worship from 6-8 p.m. Monday - Saturday. On Friday's, we have an extra prayer gathering from 10 a.m. - noon. Our **Friday Encounter Night** is from 6-9 p.m. and is our main corporate gathering each Friday evening featuring live worship and a teaching to inspire love for Jesus and prayer.
2. **UPCOMING EVENTS:** We're open from 7-8 p.m. every night seven days a week. Hope to gather with you in prayer!
3. **Prayer room ministry opportunities:** If you are interested in leading or ministering during a live worship set by singing, playing an instrument, prayer leading or behind the sound board, please contact us at info@gphop.org. We'd love to have you serve on one of our teams! **Team ministry opportunities:** If you feel the Lord has gifted you in the prophetic (or would like to grow in this gifting) and would consider helping on a prophetic team, send an email to info@gphop.org. Contact Mandy Kistner at mandy@gphop.org if you would like to schedule a future healing ministry appointment or help out on the healing team.
4. **Missions:** Please keep the following missionaries we support in prayer as well as be sensitive to their financial needs: **Ashley Bucknam** (YWAM, Hawaii); **Alicia Wright** (India); **Tim and Blair Fraim** (Florianopolis House of Prayer; Florianopolis, Brazil); **Eric and Erin Simmons** (Minnesota House of Prayer Network; Twin Cities, MN); **Austin and Amy Zhu** and **Phil Kellenberger** (International House of Prayer; Kansas City, MO); **Babett Mueller** (111 Global; Kansas City, MO). Also keep friends **Tyler and Sarah Cook** and family in prayer who lead the Illinois Valley House of Prayer in Ottawa, IL.
5. **Military:** Please keep the following members of our military in prayer as they valiantly serve the United States of America: **Jake Gerst**, currently stationed in Grafenwoehr/Grafenwöhr, Germany.
6. **Social media:** Follow us on Facebook (Greater Peoria House of Prayer - GPHOP), Twitter (@GPHOPPrayer), Instagram (@GPHOPPrayer), Vimeo and YouTube for regular updates and inspiration. Use these social media sites to get the word out, share pictures, quotes you heard, etc. Contact Derek at derek@gphop.org if you're interested in helping with GPHOP's social media.
7. **Haven ministries:** Do you need space to pray just one-on-one. Maybe your Christian group needs a place to meet every once in awhile. We're making available the upper Prayer Room and lower-level Gathering Grounds for rent by donation. Email info@gphop.org if interested.
8. We provide **free Wi-Fi** to everyone here! The password for the **GPHOP** router is on the chalkboard in the downstairs fellowship area. You can also connect to either the CableWiFi or xfinitywifi routers if you have a personal Comcast account.
9. **Prayer requests:** If you would like our community to pray for something specific, please submit it to info@gphop.org.
10. **Giving:** If you have been blessed by the GPHOP and would like sow financially into the ministry, we would be more than blessed. You can give in cash, but if you would like to give to GPHOP with a check, please make it out to "Greater Peoria House of Prayer" or "GPHOP"—your gift is tax deductible. Thank you for your generosity! It's helping make day and night prayer with worship possible in central Illinois. You can place your gift in the Saturday night offering during the 7 p.m. teaching or drop it in either of the two black donation boxes. Donations can also be mailed to our physical address at 117 East Washington Street, East Peoria, IL 61611. Donors can also use PayPal or our website (gphop.org/donate) to give electronically.

*Thank you for helping to **keep this prayer room sacred** by ensuring conversations with others are brief and kindly reminding others to do the same. Use the large Gathering Grounds fellowship area downstairs if you would like to chat at length.*