

**Mark 7:31-37**

**Pentecost 16; September 13 & 14, 2015**

### **He has done all things well!**

If your car was in an accident, and if it is repaired, would you want your car to be fixed in a way that isn't well? Don't you want to say: *"They did a really nice job on your car!"* As a student, wouldn't you rather get an "A," instead of an "F?"

**"He Has Done Everything Well."** And if you think about it, would you want a God who hasn't done everything well? Would you want to worship a Lord who has some success only some of the time? Would you be comfortable pinning your eternal hopes on a Savior who might get it right...and then again he might not?

As God had finished the work of creating this world, Moses records these words: **"God saw all that he had made, and it was very good."** (Genesis 1:31) His creation was perfect, but it wouldn't last long. Sin would soon enter the world and ruin that perfect creation. Yet, God would promise to send a Savior who would once again restore what sin had taken away. Now, in Christ, God the Father is putting his restoration plan into effect. **"For the Son of Man came to seek and to save what was lost."** (Luke 19:10) As they see Jesus perform his miracles, they would see that Jesus is the one who would once again make everything well. He is the one who makes things well in our lives as well. Therefore, let us take a look at the words of our text under the theme: **"He has done all things well!"** 1. *With his compassion;* 2. *With his power.*

Jesus demonstrates his love and compassion on the man in our text this morning. **"Then Jesus left the vicinity of Tyre and went through Sidon, down to the Sea of Galilee and into the region of the Decapolis. There some people brought to him a man who was deaf and could hardly talk, and they begged him to place his hand on the man."** This man is undeniably helpless. He has two strikes against him in that day – he was deaf and he could hardly talk. This man wasn't living in our age of communication and technology. He didn't have the tools that we would have today. We can only assume that there were those who looked down on this man. Can you imagine the difficulties that he might have had in life?

In the verses following our text, Jesus says: **"I have compassion for these people"** (Mark 8:2) *Compassion* – a Greek word that originally would be translated as the *"inner parts."* It would come to mean compassion, because the emotion of compassion is something that would flow out of the inner parts of someone. The Samaritan man felt so sorry for the man who had been attacked by robbers that he had compassion on him. Jesus had compassion on this deaf and mute man, a "nobody" in the eyes of the world. He puts his arm around him, and after he takes him aside and **"Jesus put his fingers into the man's ears. Then he spit and touched the man's tongue. He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means, "Be opened!")."** He has compassion on him.

There are a lot of hurting people in our world today. Worldwide. Nationwide. Here in Franklin. And right here in this room. There are people here, I would guess, who are still sad because of the loss of a loved one. There are people who are struggling from the pain of divorce. There may be some who are struggling with depression or are trying to pick up the pieces in a broken life. Some may be out of work. Others might have received bad news from the doctor. And even if there is- no one here going through those things, we all know people who are. We need someone who can put their fingers on us and say **"Be Opened."** I don't mean that he might take away all our pain or struggles, because he may choose not to. But he does promise to have compassion on us. He has promised to make the biggest broken thing in our life whole again – our sin and our hearts. He has done this well by dying on the cross for our sins. This rescue plan was not a plan that was half done or not fully completed. It is done completely and perfect. Our sins are forgiven. We are restored. We can say about Jesus – **"He has done everything well."**

In this miracle of Jesus we can also see that he has done all things well with his power. Mark writes: **"He looked up to heaven and with a deep sigh said to him, "Ephphatha!" (which means, "Be opened!"). At this, the man's ears were opened, his tongue was loosened and he began to speak plainly."** First, Jesus shows where his power comes from. It came from heaven – from God the Father. He shows this man, and all who were present, that he is looking to the Heavenly Father for help. His Father answered that prayer.

Jesus heals with just one word – **“Ephphatha!”** Be opened! Jesus speaks and it is done. It wasn’t done halfway. This man didn’t have to learn how to speak like a little child. He heals completely and perfectly. He hears perfectly. He speaks perfectly. It is no wonder that the crowd exclaims: **“He does everything well.”**

Jesus displays his power in us as well. He shows us his power over sin, death and the devil. He shows us his power by his resurrection. His defeat of Satan is our victory through faith. We see that power in our lives and he works faith and strengthens that faith in us through His Word. Day after day we forget just how much of a miracle it is that we have food to eat and a roof over our head. He knows what we need and he provides it. Even when we take those things for granted, he does not stop doing all things well in our lives.

I am just amazed at times when you can see a master craftsman restore something to its original state – whether it is a restored automobile or the human body. Jesus has restored something much greater than anything in this world. He has restored our relationship with our heavenly Father through the cross. He has restored what sin had destroyed. As we look at all our heavenly Father has done, we can also remark: **He had done everything well – with his compassion and with his power!** Amen.