

SPEAKER: Ryan Lingbloom

DATE: March 8, 2026

SERIES TITLE: Defining Moments

Sermon Title

CONFESSION

Introduction

This week, we continued our series that will take us from now until Easter called **Defining Moments**. Throughout the Gospel of Mark, we see story after story of ordinary people encountering Jesus and having to make real, everyday decisions about who Jesus is and what He calls them to. These moments **define** these people, as their lives get changed when they encounter the King. Through this series, we are going to be unpacking these **Defining Moments** in the Gospel of Mark and how our own **Defining Moments** with Jesus shape our lives today.

Seek the Word: Before discussing this week's questions, read through Mark 8:22-29 out loud as a group. What stands out to you from this passage?

CONFESSION

How would you answer Jesus' question to the disciples if He asked you today? "Who do people say I am?" "What about you, who do you say I am?"

Each section below will have a question for those still in that part of their discipleship journey, and a question for those who have moved through that into the next. Feel free to answer both, but make sure you answer the one that speaks to where you are at now.

- **Blind**
 - Still Blind: What is (what used to be) blocking your line of sight to Jesus? Are there sins, doubts, worries, questions, thoughts, emotions, etc. that are stopping you from "fixing your eyes" on Jesus?
 - Can See: What was your encounter(s) with Jesus that helped restore your sight so you could begin seeing and knowing Him more clearly?
- **Blur**
 - Things are Foggy: What is (was) confusing to you about Jesus/Christianity? Are there conversations you need to have or questions you need to ask, and if so, what has held you back from having/asking those already?
 - Things are Clearer: What were the *defining moments* that brought greater clarity to your walk with Jesus? What were the circumstances that allowed those moments to happen?
- **Belief**
 - Waiting to Believe: Is (was) there something holding you back from fully committing to Jesus, and trusting Him as your Lord and Savior? What is the next step you can take
 - Walking in Belief: Who is someone that you know you need to bring to Jesus to help them see? What do you need to do this week to walk alongside someone as they begin/continue their journey to see Jesus clearly and believe in Him?

Wrap Up

Reminder: **Jesus is Lord of ALL.** Our opinions about Jesus do not change who He is. But our belief in who He is, our confession that He is Lord, changes everything about us. It is through that belief and that confession that even the blind may regain their sight, and even the most broken can have a powerful impact for God's Kingdom. Each day, we have a choice to see Jesus for who He is, cutting through the darkness and murkiness of our world, and recognize our Lord for all that He is and all that He does.

Challenge: Who Do You Say That He Is?

On a sticky note, a piece of paper, or maybe even a phone alarm, write down the phrase "Jesus is Lord and Messiah" and make sure it is in a place that you see it multiple times throughout the day. When your life gets blurry, when it gets difficult to see clearly, or when the belief gets difficult, look at that phrase and speak it out loud. Remind yourself of your confession in who Jesus is and let that clear your sight so you can fix your eyes upon our Lord.

Prayer: Close your time together in prayer for each other. Ask God to clear your sight, to remove the blurry vision and allow each of you to see Jesus clearly. Pray for those, both in and outside of your group, who are still walking in blindness. Ask that God would use you to bring those people in your life to Him, to help them see and confess that Jesus is truly Lord over all.