



**Perspectives on the World Christian Movement**  
**Sundays, 1:15-4:15PM**  
**January 21-May 7**

**Grace Community Church, North Liberty**

Perspectives allows you to hear from 15 different instructors over the course of 15 weeks. This class is for believers from all walks of life. Hear how God has been and continues to work throughout the world. Learn more about God's kingdom and His glory. Find out what your part is in this exciting movement. No matter who you are or what you do, Perspectives will help you learn how to live for GOD'S KINGDOM.

Register online at [perspectives.org/IowaCity2018](http://perspectives.org/IowaCity2018).

**Register by December 1st and receive an Early Bird Discount.**

For more information email Jean at [jeank@graceb3.org](mailto:jeank@graceb3.org).



**Thursday, December 7**  
**7PM in the Chapel**

Join us in worshipping God by remembering who He is and what He has done for us. We'll sing traditional Christmas songs together, and hear special music and testimony that points to the work of Christ in this special season. Let us know you are coming on our Facebook event and share it with your friends!



**Wednesday, December 20**  
**During AWANA**

Each year the AWANA program holds a "Christmas Store" night for clubbers in grades 3-6. Students earn credits for successes achieved in the fall semester. They use these credits to purchase Christmas gifts for friends and family. Please consider donating new gift items in the "AWANA Donations" box located in the lobby starting November 26. Need ideas on what to donate? Check out our Events page at [parkviewchurch.org](http://parkviewchurch.org) for our AWANA registry and have your gift shipped directly to the Central Campus at 15 Foster Road.

*The Crown and The Cross: A Study of Mark's Gospel*

**NEED A MIRACLE TODAY?**

**Mark 7:24-8:13**

*Pastor Dave Foster*

November 26, 2017

**I. A MIRACLE OF PERSISTENCE** (Mark 7:24-30; Matthew 15:21-28)

- A. Persevere despite where you live.
- B. Persevere despite how you are not welcomed.
- C. Persevere even when the stated agenda does not include you.
- D. Persevere even when your spiritual leader doubts anything can be done for you.
- E. Persevere by reminding God of His promises.

**II. A MIRACLE SPEAKS TO THE LOST: The Kingdom of God is Near!** (Mark 7:31-37; Isaiah 35:5-6)

**A. Mogilalos: "Deaf and Dumb"**

- A prophet spoke these words and, due to sin, God was removing His presence from these people.
- A promise that a time of restoration will come.
- Sign—deaf will hear, dumb will speak.

**B. Ephphatha: "Be Opened"**

- A sign fulfilled—deaf and dumb healed.
- Jesus fulfills the promise of restoration.

**III. A MIRACLE DESPITE HARD HEARTS**

(Mark 8:1-10; Matthew 15:32-39)

**Differences in Miracles of Feeding:**

- |                       |                         |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| • 5,000               | • 4,000                 |
| • Grass               | • Ground                |
| • 5 Loaves and 2 Fish | • 7 Loaves and Few Fish |
| • 12 Baskets          | • 7 Baskets             |
| • One Day             | • Three Days            |
| • Bethsaida           | • Decapolis             |
| • Jews                | • Gentiles              |

**IV. MIRACLES HAPPEN TODAY!**

*Miracle of persistence*

*Miracle for the lost*

*Miracles that open hard hearts*

**Discussion Questions:**

**Orient Your Minds to God's Word**

- Read **Mark 7:24-8:13**, or select a specific passage (7:24-30 or 7:31-37 or 8:1-13)

*Ask some basic questions:*

- Can anyone paraphrase this passage in their own words?
- What surprises you?
- If you gave these verses to someone who had never heard of Jesus before, what do you think their response would be?
- What's the significance of the exchange between Jesus and Syrophenician woman?
- This is the second time Jesus feeds the crowds. What do you learn from this feeding miracle?
- Why does Jesus perform another feeding miracle, but He refuses to give the Pharisees a sign?
- Always try to move the discussion towards real life application. It's very common and easy to fall into "information transfer" mode vs. hearing and doing the Word. Press into here, often.
- Based on this passage, how should my life look different?
- What is one concrete step you can take to live out this Scripture?

Spend some time praying for one another and implementing accountability to apply the Scripture.



Thank you to all who generously gave to this year's Thanksgiving offering! Many lives will be impacted by your contribution. A total from the Thanksgiving offering will be shared on December 3rd.

If you were not able to give last week, you still may do so by writing "Thanksgiving Offering" in the memo of your check, or by selecting "Thanksgiving Offering" online at [parkviewchurch.org/give](http://parkviewchurch.org/give).