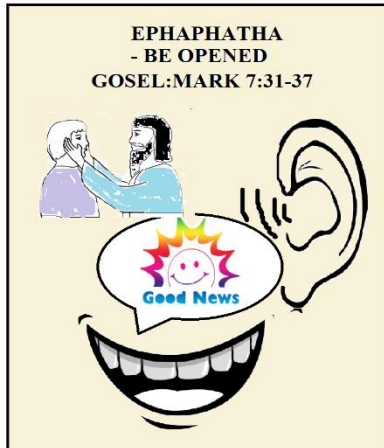


“Ephphatha’- ‘Be opened.’

Children’s Liturgy Activity September 5th , 2021



Jesus proclaimed,
the Good News of the kingdom
and cured all kinds of sickness
among the people. -Mathew 4:23

Gospel: Mark 7:31-37

In gospel today, we see that people are bringing a man who is deaf and who has difficulty in speaking to Jesus for laying his hands and praying. Jesus takes the man away from the crowds. He put his fingers into the man’s ears and touched the man’s tongue with his spittle. Jesus then looked up to heaven and cried out ‘Ephphatha- be opened’. Immediately the man was healed, and he was able to hear and talk. Jesus instructed the people not to make this miracle known to others. But the more Jesus restricted, the more the good news spread. Their admiration was undoubted. Seeing what Jesus did, the people said, ‘He has done all things well. He makes the deaf hear and the dumb speak.’

We can see many people around us who are deaf and who can’t speak. Many who are helpless and challenged. Many who are deaf to God’s voice and many who experience blocks to speak for Jesus due to their life situations. Are we one among them who is deaf and speechless towards Jesus’ voice and words? Do we need help? Is our help needed by others?

The deaf man was brought to Jesus by other people. He didn’t come by himself. This is an assurance that by our prayers and concern for others, we can bring them to Jesus’ presence. It is the prayers of others (parents or friends or priests) and their help that will take us to Jesus’ presence . Intercession prayers does great help, by bringing many to experience Jesus in their life.

Jesus took him aside in private, away from the crowd. Jesus wishes to meet each of us taking us away from the crowd. While in the crowd, we might fail to experience Jesus personally. When we feel bored, tensed, or challenged or feel lonely, let us remember Jesus is calling us out from the noises and busy life. Let us not hesitate to be with him. Let us surrender such situations for Jesus’ touch.

What does Jesus do when we are with him? Let us remember what Jesus did for the deaf man. Jesus said, ‘Ephphatha’- ‘Be opened.’, the man’s ear and tongue was opened by Jesus to hear and speak clearly. While we spent time with Jesus, he fills us with Holy spirit and grace, to open our ears to Hear his voice and touches our mouth to open and proclaim the good news. Amidst all our weaknesses and blocks, Jesus opens us and all others whom we pray for, to receive the Heavenly treasures and proclaim it to the world. Jesus is interceding for us at the right-hand of the father. He suffered for us and is praying for us, leading us to heaven every moment of our life.

So, let us find time away from the crowds and noises to be with Jesus. If we find it hard, let us seek help and prayers from others to bring us back to the presence of Jesus. Let us Intercede for others and bring them to Jesus. Through our prayers, testimony, and charity, let us bring them to Jesus to be opened TO LISTEN and PROCLAIM GOOD NEWS.

Jesus healed the man who was deaf and had difficulty in speaking.
Colour the below picture and fill in the dialogue box with the special word Jesus used while healing the man and write its meaning.



**'his ears were opened, and the ligament of his tongue was loosened
and he spoke clearly'- Mark 7:35**

Jesus has opened our ears and mouth.

Can you write down on the ear and mouth template given below, how you are going to use it for the lord?



Bible words hunt.

Can you unscramble the given special words in the bible?

You can use the clues for help.

hattalimuc (Clue: Mark 5:41)	
saonahan (Clue: Matthew 21:9)	
buarobin (Clue: John 20:16)	
baba (Clue: Mark 14:36)	
pecahs (Clue: John 1:42)	
gerneasbo (Clue: Mark 3:17)	

Let us pray for others to bring them to Jesus and to be opened by him.

Make a list of your prayer requests and all whom you wish to bring to Jesus and pray daily.

My Intercession prayer list.

Let us pray, 

Dear lord Jesus, we thank you for calling us out from this world to your presence. We thank you for opening us to receive you and to hear your living word. Give us the grace to be in your presence always and fill us with the power of your holy spirit to proclaim the good news to the world. We pray for all who are helpless and all who have not known you yet. Give us the desire to help them by our prayers and charity to bring them to your presence to be opened by you.

In Jesus' name we pray, amen.