Mark Lesson 25 (2022)

**THE YEAST OF THE PHARISEES AND HEROD**

(Mark 8:11-21)

**Open it:**

1. In what ways do many adults grow hardened as they get older? What is one negative example from which you have learned?

**Explore it:**

1. Read verses 11-13. How did the Pharisees plan to “test” Jesus? Why did Jesus “sigh deeply”? What announcement did Jesus make to the generation of his day? Why does God refuse to give us signs or proof of his existence and presence?
2. Read verses 14-16. What had the disciples forgotten on their trip? What did Jesus warn his disciples against? How did the disciples misunderstand Jesus’ warning?
3. Read verses 17-21. What was Jesus’ explanation for why the disciples could not understand what he meant? Why did the disciples harden their hearts? (Heb. 4:7-11) When has your heart been “hardened”? How did Jesus try to get through to his disciples? (18-20) Why?

**Apply it:**

1. How can you separate yourself from the world’s corruption yet still be an effective witness for Christ? What step can you take to soften your heart toward God this week? (Ro. 8:5-8)