

## THANK YOU FOR JOINING US TODAY!

Thank you for joining us today. This is a short note to let you know that we know what you are thinking: It is hot and cramped in this room. We want to acknowledge with you that yes, the front room is full, the kids rooms are full, and it can get warm. We are working on alleviating this right now by building our own building on the land just north of us.

There is a lot that goes into the process of Element having a permanent home, but we hope that today you are first drawn to Jesus before you are overwhelmed by anything else. If it gets too hot, we may hand out popsicles to help you cool off and give you a sugar rush. If you would like a service that has open seats (and is cooler), you are invited to our 8:15 am service. Please understand that all of these “challenges” are because of our love for Jesus, people, and growth that has come quickly. These are good things. We hope you will stay as we work to make more room for you to be part of the good thing Jesus is doing here. If you would like more information about our building process or how you can participate, you can visit: [www.elementroots.org](http://www.elementroots.org).

- The Element Team

## ONE: MUD ME TWO TIMES — MARK 8:22-26 —

MARK 8:25  
MARK 7:31-37

JOHN 9  
MARK 7:2-3

MARK 8:17-18  
1 COR. 13:12

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

### PUMPKIN KILLING!

**Sunday, October 30th** 1:30-4:30pm  
at Orcutt Hill/NewLove Picnic Grounds.

This free event is open to all!

Pumpkin carving, Pumpkin Pie Eating and Pumpkin Launching,  
bounce house and more!  
*Please bring carving utensils.*

### AGAPE THANKSGIVING DINNERS

**Sunday, November 20th**  
RSVP for a dinner by emailing:  
[connect@ourelement.org](mailto:connect@ourelement.org)

### HAVE QUESTIONS?

Do you have a *What in the World?* question you'd like us to answer?  
Ask us at: [www.ourelement.org/what?](http://www.ourelement.org/what?)  
or via this QR Code with your phone:



# WHAT!

— IN THE —  
WORLD?

# ONE: MUD ME TWO TIMES

— MARK 8:22-26 —

Because of our modern western mindset, we tend to view miracles as either relegated to the past or something that happens to others and not to us. Different words are used for miracles in the New Testament, like “wonders”, “signs”, “mighty acts”, and “powers.” The Hebrew word for miracle (*môpēl*), can mean any one of these things.

Today there is a lot of confusion when it comes to the subject of miracles. Many people fail to see that Scripture does not usually distinguish between the miracle of God’s constant sovereign providence and the miracles brought about by His particular acts. In the Old and New Testament belief in miracles are set in the context of a world-view which regards the whole of creation as continually dependent upon the sustaining activity of God and subject to His sovereign will.

When the biblical writers refer to the mighty acts of God, or even the miracles of Jesus, they do not distinguish them from many acts of nature because they see them as a result of God’s sovereign power (which they are). In the text we look at today in Mark 8:22-26 we see Jesus’ sovereign power **and** His healing grace as **one thing**. He does what He does to teach His disciples, and us, that God wants us to see clearly in our lives, because too often we see as through a fog.

We must become a people who trust God to grow us and heal us in the way that He sees fit because we are His children.

## INTRODUCTION

Jesus knew what the man saw when He was healing him, Jesus asks the question He does in Mark 8 for a purpose, to teach His disciples (and us). It is Jesus who rescues and Jesus who saves. The truth is that we are blind because of our own sin, but the beauty of the Gospel is that Jesus died and rose in our place to bring us back to God so we can be a people who truly see again.

## DISCUSSION

What questions do you have about the Bible that make you go “what in the world?”

Have you ever been asked a question which you couldn’t answer?

## EXPLANATION – Read Mark 8:22-26

If you were there on Sunday, or listened to the podcast, sum up why Jesus healed in stages in the verses.

Do you think God works the exact same way in everyone?

How have you seen God work in people differently?

## APPLICATION

*Ray Pritchard writes, “Our God is infinitely creative in the way he deals with us as he brings us to spiritual maturity. There are bright days and dark nights, and both are from the Lord.”*

How has Jesus dealt with you based upon your NEED and not your WANT?

Give an example of a bright day and a dark night.

How did you learn from both?

## MISSION

How does understanding of how God works differently in each of us change how you approach others with the Gospel?

How can understanding of God’s timing make us more encouraging to those who struggle around us?