## GOD OF THE WHOLE WORLD Mark 7:24-8:10 (NIV)

We have three stories: two healings and a feeding. All in the region of Tyre (this is now the Gentile region, I got ahead of myself last week!). What's helpful is to think of the big picture of God's story... is he only about Israel?

## **Read Mark 7:24-36**

- 1. The story with the woman might feel strange, but the point isn't about the language about the dogs (Jesus isn't being racist or sexist... in fact he is being radically inclusive) but instead on v. 29... what does Jesus praise about this woman?
- 2. The story with the deaf and mute man isn't really about the deaf and mute man but the reaction of the people. What do we learn about these people? Perhaps in contrast with Jewish reaction towards Jesus?

## Read Mark 8:1-10

- 3. Another Feeding! What do you think this stories setting means for God's interest in Gentiles?
- 4. Something you might not know, in the 1st century religion was tied to your ethnicity. You were born into it. What does Jesus' actions mean for these Gentiles? Ephesians 2 has some good words on that!
- 5. What has been your experience with Christians from different ethnicities or cultural groups? What are similarities? Differences?
- 6. Pray for God's mission for the whole world and consider what ways your group might enter into that in the Silicon Valley.