

## Show Me a Sign!

St. John Eyre

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**Mark 8:11-13** (NIV) The Pharisees came and began to question Jesus. To test him, they asked him for a sign from heaven. He sighed deeply and said, “Why does this generation ask for a sign? Truly I tell you, no sign will be given to it.” Then he left them, got back into the boat and crossed to the other side.

God wants us to reach out to him in faith. Asking God for a sign is not pleasing to God because it’s a sign of unbelief.

An author that penned:

*“Earth is crammed with heaven, And every common bush afire with God; But only he who sees, takes off his shoes, the rest sit round it and pluck blackberries.”*

**Romans 1:20** (NIV) For since the creation of the world God’s invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse.

## Going Deeper

### Care Group Discussion Guide

Understand that God would be pleased with us possessing absolute faith and trust in him. Every time in the bible that a person has asked for a sign it is a small window showing God their lack of faith in a certain area of their life.

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Notice that Jesus ‘sighed deeply’, which gives the reader a mental picture about how disappointed he was with their request.

Key points:

1. A hardened heart struggles to accept Gods commands
2. Asking for a sign clearly displays a believers unbelief
3. Why ask for yet another sign when there are already so many in place

Discussion points:

1. God would prefer that believers not ask for a sign. Why is that? (remember a believers unbelief)
2. Read the story of Gideon in Judges, chapter 6. Gideon fully knew the long history of God striving with His chosen people yet he asked for a sign over and over again. Why was it so difficult for Gideon to trust God, even after he talked to the angel of God and saw a sacrifice consumed and accepted unto the Lord?
3. In today's modern world, how is our belief impacted that causes us to doubt or not fully trust God in our hearts? Do our eyes deceive us or does our heart? (Wars? Politics? Crime? News?)