

GOSPEL PEARLS

Speaking about God

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Then Jesus returned from the region of Tyre and went through Sidon to the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. And they brought to him a man who was deaf and had a speech impediment, and they begged him to lay his hand on him. And taking him aside from the crowd privately, he put his fingers into his ears, and after spitting touched his tongue. And looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, "Ephphatha," that is, "Be opened." And his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. And Jesus charged them to tell no one. But the more he charged them, the more

zealously they proclaimed it. And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak." (Mark 7: 31-37)

Normally, mute persons are also deaf. Since they cannot hear, they are unable to speak. By healing the deaf-mute man, Jesus teaches us that whoever wants to speak about God must first listen to His Word. Of course, it is not enough just to hear it, but it must be accepted for what it is: the Word of God. Before speaking about God, ask yourself whether you have listened well to His Word? In addition to listening to it, have you also meditated on it in silence in order to allow God to speak to your heart?