

# THE GOSPEL OF MARK

## 4 - The Kings' Authority - Mark 1.21-35

### Introduction

Much of Jesus' ministry was done in the small villages and rural areas surrounding the sea of Galilee. Jesus was unlike any other teacher or rabbi, who would typically bore the people with their endless quotations of the commentators and burden the people with their rules about rules. Jesus taught the truths of the bible as if they were meaningful, powerful and alive, and this resulted in crowds of people not only wanting to learn more, but also wanting to see God move. Mark, in this passage wants to emphasize Jesus' authority, over the bible, over disease and over demons.

### Observation/Interpretation

- How/why was Jesus' teaching different from the bible teachers of his day?
- What does it mean to have authority?
- Why does authority so often get abused by those in our culture...and especially ourselves?
- In this passage (Mk. 1:21-35) what are some other ways Mark wants to demonstrate Jesus' authority?

### Application

Jesus didn't just preach nice sermons that made people feel good, for His words had power. He spoke and sick people were healed and demons were cast out. He wasn't just another Bible teacher, He was God's appointed King and his authority demonstrated that.

Do you believe that God still does miracles today? (Why or Why not?) If Jesus cares about each and every person, shouldn't we? What are some ways in which we could use the authority God has given to us show sick and hurting people the love of God?

### Memory Verse

Mark 1:22 they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority...

#### Community Group Discussion

- Read the passage together out loud.
- Involve your group by asking/answering the study questions, taking the time to share.
- Ask for prayer requests and be sure to pray together.

#### Family Discussion

- Have your child/children read the passage aloud, if old enough otherwise you read it aloud.
- Involve them by asking questions.
- Ask for prayer requests and invite them to pray together as a family.

A great way to use of these notes is to start/join a Community Group

These notes can be used for personal bible study, yet, another way would be to invite some people together. We call these intentional gatherings, 'Community Groups'.

What is a Community Group?

Community Groups are small gatherings of believers (non-believers welcomed too!) that meet regularly for accountability, friendship, study of the Bible and prayer. Community Groups are an essential part of the mission of Calvary SLO Church as they are a place where we wrestle with the truths of the Bible and encourage one another toward the life God intends. Each community group is unique and molded by the people who attend it. Most community groups gather weekly and involve food, dialog, prayer, discussion for applying the Bible to practical living, and loving service to one-another. They're meant to be an organic and authentic expression of the church, actively living like the body of Jesus.

Why should I join/start a Community Group?

God is a Trinitarian God who is revealed as one in three persons: Father, Son and Spirit. We've been made to image God, which means we're designed for community & friendship. We often suffer when we're not in community, due to the brokenness of life, complexity of this world and the temptation to isolate ourselves. We encourage you to gather with a small group of friends, family or roommates on a weekly basis and use these discussion notes to press deeper into God.

How do I join the Calvary SLO Community Group eco-system?

We're enthusiastic about all forms of biblical community, however there are definite benefits to joining with the Calvary SLO Community Group (CG) eco-system. In short, the benefits are:

- **Training:** We have trainings intent on equipping leaders.
- **Support:** Each CG leader is assigned a coach to provide assistance and ongoing support.
- **Visibility:** CG's are promoted via the bulletin, website & given access to The City (our online social network).

To join all you have to do is sign up for the next upcoming training! Info: pastor James: james@calvaryslo.com.