

Journey Through the New Testament

Mark 2 – 6

Series: Do as I Do!

“Bring Healing to a Sin Sick World”

2-17-19

Introduction

Welcome to week eight on the journey. The readings from this week included many miraculous healings, a debate about who Jesus was (is), cleverly crafted parables about the kingdom of God, and a wide variety of responses to Jesus. The pharisees were outraged when Jesus and his disciples broke the Mosaic law, even though it was for the greater good of someone in need. Controversy over Jesus mounted with each challenge that Jesus presented. The keepers of the law saw it as illegal for Jesus to do good on the sabbath but could not see that plotting a plan to kill him certainly did not uphold the law.

Jesus turned everything upside down as he taught and demonstrated through his actions that the kingdom of God is different than the kingdoms of this world. God’s kingdom brings healing and forgiveness. God’s kingdom chooses mercy over law. Those who belong to the kingdom will do the same.

Opening Prayer

O Christ, you reveal what is hidden and have power over all things. You are healer, teacher, “Son of the Most High God,” and Lord of all. Open our hearts and minds to your power and presence so that we can respond to all people with mercy and love according to your will. Amen.

Bible Study from selected verses of Mark 3 – 6 (CEB)

Lesson Notes: Form three groups and using the gospel of Mark, assign each group a question to discuss. Use the handout to jot summaries of the discussions.

What

1. What do these scriptures reveal about who Jesus is?
Mark 3:1-5 4:1-9 5:1-7
2. What do these scriptures tell us about the power of the kingdom of God?
Mark 4:26-29 4:30-34

3. What responses to Jesus are found in these passages?
Mark 3:1-4 3:31-35 4:13 4:40-41

So What

Leader Notes: Gather the groups and have each briefly share their findings from the questions above. Members can fill in additional information on their worksheets.

Now What

Leader Notes: Ask the group to silently reflect upon the questions below as you read them aloud. After each question, allow time for reflection. (If your group is smaller in size and feeling connected, you may wish to have the group share aloud.)

1. Now that you have considered who Jesus is, how will you respond to him? —
Do you need healing? More faith? Forgiveness? Power to grow? Ready to do as Jesus did?
2. Now that you have considered Jesus' parable of the sower and the Kingdom of God, where are you spiritually? —
Have you fallen along the path?
Are you in a shallow rocky place where there is not much soil to grow?
Among thorns? In good soil growing and showing love and mercy according to God's will?

Closing

Tell me all about your faithful love come morning time, because I trust you. Show me the way I should go, because I offer my life up to you. Psalm 143:8 CEB

Group Worksheet

What

1. What do these scriptures reveal about **who Jesus is**?

Mark 3:1-5 4:1-9 5:1-7

2. What do these scriptures reveal about **the kingdom of God**?

Mark 4:26-29 4:30-34

3. What **responses to Jesus** are found in these passages?

Mark 3:1-4 3:31-35 4:13 4:40-41