

ALONG THE WAY | WEEK 1

Date: April 16, 2023

Verses: Mark 1:1-39



SERIES INSIGHT

Along the Way is a series through the book of Mark! Join us as we unpack how Jesus worked and moved in the lives of people like you me on the journey of life “along the way”.

ICEBREAKER

- If you could have any new skill instantly, what would you choose?

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. **Review the Message.** Looking back at your notes and upon reflecting on this weekend’s message, what was your one takeaway from Sunday?

2. Read Mark 1:1-11. Why do you think John felt unworthy to untie Jesus’s sandals?

Describe your attitude toward your sin. Does it evoke as strong a reaction as John’s? Why or why not? Try to imagine what it must have felt like for John the Baptist to stand in front of his Creator. In what ways has Jesus become too familiar? Do you find yourself taking him for granted? How?

3. Read Mark 1:14-20. When have you ever felt God calling you to something drastically new? Perhaps a job, a move, a relationship shift. How did you react?

4. Describe a moment when life for you completely changed—where you knew the world was going to be different and there was no going back. How did you feel? Excited, afraid, nervous? **How did the disciples react to Jesus’s invitation to follow him?**

Put yourself in their shoes for a moment. How do you think you would have responded if you had been in the fishing boat with Peter?

5. If we live comfortable lives, it’s easy to see Jesus’s call as an inconvenience. We have more to lose—more to give up—if we’re going to follow him. **What do you stand to lose by following Jesus the way the disciples did? What do you stand to gain by following Jesus?**

6. Read Mark 1:21-34. These verses give us the first glimpses of Jesus’s power on display. He does not just *claim* to have authority—he proves it. **What were the people saying about his teaching (1:22)?**

7. **Describe the kind of authority he demonstrates in 1:32–34. What does this tell us about the extent and nature of his power?**

Mark’s point with this presentation of Jesus’s authority is that he has the right to extend the kingdom to whomever he chooses. And that includes the sick, marginalized, and hurting. **So what does this mean for us? How do we live differently in light of Jesus’s authority?**

PRAYER

Allow people to share requests and celebrate any praise reports as well. Consider having someone write down the requests to share with the group. Take time to pray however long your group needs.



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