

FG Midweek

The Gospel of Mark

Class 2: Mark 2:1-3:6

Good evening! Welcome back to our Midweek gathering. This time on Wednesday nights focuses on equipping you to do the work of ministry. God calls you to do more than just sit on the sideline—He has a plan and He has a purpose for you in His mission. Wednesday nights serve as an opportunity for you to learn, be built up, and to be equipped to the ministry that God has called you to.

Reminder: study in spring, share in fall

REVIEW

In the first chapter of Mark, we see two main sections. The first section (1:1-20) introduces Jesus through John the Baptist, and then tells the story of Jesus calling the first disciples. This section presents Jesus as the long awaited Messiah and announces His call to discipleship. He beckons you to repent and believe the gospel and to follow Him entirely.

The second section in this first chapter shows the Lordship of Jesus. This section really focuses on how Jesus is Lord over evil, sickness, disease, and that Jesus is Lord in His message.

The Gospel of Mark

- Mark 1:1-45
 - Mark 1:1-20: The call of Jesus is a call to discipleship. This discipleship is costly, so we need to count the cost!
 - Mark 1:21-45: Who is Jesus? He is Lord!
 - Lord over evil
 - Lord over sickness
 - Lord in His gospel message

- Lord over disease
- Application & Takeaways
 - Jesus calls us to follow Him with our entire lives
 - The cost of discipleship is high in worldly standards, but has eternal value
 - Jesus is the long awaited Messiah. He is Lord. His Lordship is over all of creation. Who do you say that He is?

Read Mark 2:1-3:6

HIGHLIGHT

- What is the context within the book of Mark? What is the context within the entire Bible?
- What is the author's main intent? What is Mark trying to get us as readers to understand?

EXPLAIN

- What is the author saying?
- What words or phrases are repeated or emphasized in the passage?
- What themes in Mark do you see recurring in this passage?
- What does the author reveal about God? Man? Redemption?
- Does this passage connect to other passages in the Bible?

APPLY

- What does the text teach about mankind and how we differ from God?
- Is there a sin that I am convicted of and need to confess after reading this passage?
- What kind of gospel-fueled obedience does this text call me to?
- Is there a sin to avoid? Is there a promise to hold onto?

RESPOND

- Journal your response to the text by writing down your key takeaway of the text.

The Gospel of Mark

Mark 1:1-8:30 focuses on Jesus' identity. The issue that Mark poses for the reader is this: do you recognize Jesus as the Messiah? Recognizing that Jesus is the messiah is not a matter of mental logic, it is a matter of spiritual revelation. God has to reveal this to you in order for your heart to be changed.

Mark 2:1-3:6

This section centers on the opposition that disciples of Jesus will face, and the manner in which we ought to respond to that opposition. Our response must be one of confident boldness and persistent perseverance.

This scene unfolds in five sections. In each section, Jesus is presented with opposition, but responds to it as Lord and Messiah.

Section	Opponents	Issue/Question	Jesus' Response
2:1-12	Scribes	Does Jesus have the authority to forgive?	"Son your sins are forgiven...Rise, pick up your bed, and go home." Physical and spiritual healing demonstrating Jesus' authority to forgive.
2:13-17	Scribes and Pharisees	Why does Jesus associate with sinners?	"Those who are well have no need of any physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."
2:18-22	Pharisees	Why do the disciples not fast?	"Can the wedding guests fast while the bridegroom is with them?"
2:23-27	Pharisees	Why do the disciples pick grain on the Sabbath?	"The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath."
3:1-6	Pharisees and Herodians	Why does Jesus heal on the Sabbath?	"Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill? Stretch out your hand..."

Who Were Jesus' Opponents?

Scribes: Jewish leaders responsible for keeping records, writing and copying important documents, and providing legal counsel at times. Think of legal scholars (lawyers).

Pharisees: a political and religious sect of Judaism made up of experts on the Mosaic law. These were the religious leaders of the day. They called for strict adherence to the law and strict purity.

Herodians: a political faction of Jews who supported the Herodian dynasty. These Jews favored collaboration with Roman rule in order to pursue political stability and financial prosperity.

Key Truths

Section	Summary
2:1-12	Jesus can forgive sin and heal the body, showing that He is Lord over body and soul. Following this Messiah will bring opposition for the disciple.
Application:	
2:13-17	Jesus calls Levi as a disciple and is then immediately Jesus is questioned about why He eats with sinners and tax collectors.
Application:	
2:18-22	The Pharisees question why Jesus and His disciples do not follow their fasting customs, and Jesus reveals that His presence signals a unique moment in history.
Application:	
2:23-28	The Pharisees again question Jesus and His disciples—this time on Sabbath

	practices. Jesus and His disciples once again experience opposition.
Application:	
3:1-6	The Pharisees again question Jesus on the Sabbath and now begin to plot the death of Jesus with the Herodians.
Application:	

Conclusion

All of chapter one confronts the reader with the reality that Christ is the Messiah—He is the divine Son of God. His identity requires a response from everyone. Are you ready to follow this Messiah? Have you counted the cost?