



## “I Am” PT. II | Mark | Mark Allen | 03.15.26

### “I Am Servant” Mark’s Gospel

#### Opening Prayer

Begin your time together by thanking God for sending Jesus as the ultimate servant and asking the Holy Spirit to guide your discussion and application.

#### Icebreaker

Share about a time when someone served you in a meaningful way. How did it make you feel? How did it impact you?

#### Key Takeaways

1. **The Unfaithful to Faithful Journey:** Mark (John Mark) was an unfaithful servant who abandoned Paul and Barnabas on their missionary journey, yet God used him to write about Jesus, the faithful servant. Our past failures don't disqualify us from God's purposes.
2. **Authority Comes from Being Under Authority:** Jesus had authority because He was under the Father's authority. To have spiritual authority in our lives, we must submit to God's authority.
3. **Servants Serve, Not to Be Served:** Jesus declared, "The Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many" (Mark 10:45).
4. **Recognizing Demonic Influence:** Pastor Mark identified signs of demonic influence: isolation, madness/illogical thinking, wilderness/loneliness, self-harm, divided identity, and lawlessness.
5. **The Greatest Commandments:** Love God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength; and love your neighbor as yourself. These supersede all other laws.

## Discussion Questions:

### Understanding the Sermon

1. What stood out to you most from this message? Why?
2. How does understanding Mark as an "unfaithful servant" who wrote about the "faithful servant" encourage you in your own spiritual journey?
3. Pastor Mark mentioned that Jesus had authority because He was under authority. What does this look like practically in our lives today?

### Going Deeper

4. Read Mark 10:45. What does it mean that Jesus came to give His life as a "ransom"? Who or what was He ransoming us from?
5. Discuss the six signs of demonic influence mentioned:
  - Isolation from others
  - Driving people to madness/illogical thinking
  - Driving people into wilderness/loneliness
  - Tormenting people to hurt themselves
  - Causing people to be "beside themselves" (divided identity)
  - Rendering people lawless

Which of these do you see most prevalent in our culture today? How can we combat these influences?

6. Pastor Mark emphasized that deliverance comes through the name of Jesus AND love for Him and others. Why are both components essential?
7. Read Mark 11:15-17 (Jesus clearing the temple). What was Jesus passionate about? What does this teach us about righteous anger versus sinful anger?

### Personal Application

8. On a scale of 1-10, how would you rate yourself as a "servant of all"? What areas do you struggle with most when it comes to serving others?

9. The centurion said, "I also am a man under authority." Who or what authorities has God placed in your life? How well are you submitting to them?
  10. Mark 7:37 says of Jesus, "He has done all things well." In what area of your life do you need to trust that Jesus does all things well, even when you don't understand?
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## Practical Applications

### This Week's Challenge:

Choose ONE of the following to practice this week:

#### Option 1: Intentional Service

- Identify someone in your life who needs practical help
- Serve them without expecting anything in return
- Don't announce what you're doing; just serve quietly

#### Option 2: Submit to Authority

- Identify an area where you've been resistant to godly authority
- Pray about it and take one step toward submission
- If helpful, have an honest conversation with that authority figure

#### Option 3: Combat Isolation

- If you've been isolating yourself, reach out to at least two people this week
- Schedule coffee, a phone call, or a meal together
- Be intentional about building community

#### Option 4: Practice the Greatest Commandments

- Each day, do one specific thing to love God (worship, prayer, Bible reading, etc.)
  - Each day, do one specific thing to love someone else practically
  - Journal about the experience
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## Scripture Memory

**Mark 10:45** - "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

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## Prayer Requests & Closing Prayer

- Share prayer requests related to today's discussion
  - Pray specifically for:
    - Those who made decisions for Christ during the sermon
    - Group members struggling with serving others
    - Protection from demonic influence
    - Hearts that love God and love others well
    - Faithfulness in areas where we've been unfaithful
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## Before Next Week

- Read the Gospel of Mark (it's only 16 chapters and can be read in one sitting)
  - Reflect on how Mark portrays Jesus as a servant throughout the book
  - Come prepared to share how your application challenge went
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## Leader Notes

- Be sensitive to those who may have experienced suicide in their families (mentioned in the sermon)
- Create a safe space for people to share struggles without judgment
- Emphasize that past unfaithfulness doesn't disqualify us from future usefulness
- If someone shares about cutting or suicidal thoughts, follow up privately and connect them with pastoral care
- Remember: the goal is transformation, not just information