

# The Gospel of Mark

### 3-20-22

#### Mark 1:29-45

## Choosing the Greater



#### **Righteous Greediness**

## Wanting more – wanting more of Jesus

# Wanting for ourselves and the world, what Jesus wants for us

The kingdom of God and the gospel is not for the timid or passive – yes it is for the meek, but the meek who seek

> Seek, keep seeking Pray, keep praying

# James 4:2 b " ... You do not have because you do not ask God."

## Luke 16:16

"The Law and the Prophets were proclaimed until John. Since that time, the good news of the kingdom of God is being preached, and everyone is forcing their way into it"

## The forceful throngs 1:28,33,45,2:2

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# John 6:66 From this time many of his disciples turned back and no longer followed him.

## The greater thing is the King

# Are we seeking God or what He can do for us?

# Are we seeking His heart or just His hand?

# Physical healing is the lesser pointing us to the greater

As eager as we are for the lesser expression(s) of God's power and goodness toward us, let us cultivate an ever-increasing appetite for the greater We stimulate our appetite for the greater over the lesser by ...

 Knowledge and awareness
Experience and exposure
Intentional exchange of the lesser for the greater

## Psalm 34:8

# Taste and see that the Lord is good; blessed is the one who takes refuge in Him.

# Only "many" v.34 received physical healing – and it was temporary

# "Every" one who wants ultimate healing receives it – and it's permanent/eternal

Revelation 22:17 " ... Let the one who is thirsty come; and let the one who wishes take the free gift of the water of life" Therefore He leaves some unhealed and goes to preach the greater benefit – vv. 37-39

And drives home the point – 2:5-12 that the lesser is intended to point to the greater

"I have come home at last! This is my real country! I belong here. This is the land I have been looking for all my life, though I never knew it till now...Come further up, come further in!"

### C.S. Lewis – The Last Battle

Don't mistakenly think that the "greater" is primarily defined by a spectacle

Any spectacles God demonstrates are byproducts of the greater He wants for us, which is intimacy with Him

### Matthew 16:4

"A wicked and adulterous generation looks for a sign, but none will be given it except the sign of Jonah." Jesus then left them and went away.

## Acts 8

18 When Simon saw that the Spirit was given at the laying on of the apostles' hands, he offered them money 19 and said, "Give me also this ability so that everyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit."

## Acts 8

# 20 Peter answered: "May your money perish with you, because you thought you could buy the gift of God with money!

## Greater intimacy/relationship with Him =

Greater fruit of the Spirit – love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, gentleness, faithfulness, goodness, and self-control

#### Luke 11:5-13

## Receive the Holy Spirit

He's always wants to give you the greater

## Greater spiritual/eternal fruit – John 15:5

## e.g. Power in prayer – Mark 9:29

## Power in witnessing etc...

