

Reality and Community

Mark 2:1-12

Eph. 4:21-24 You have heard Him and have been taught in Him as the reality is in Jesus, that you put off, as regards your former manner of life, the old man... and put on the new man, which was created according to God in righteousness and holiness of the reality.

1. Central focus—Jesus

Mark 2:1a Jesus entered again into Capernaum after a few days...

Mark 9:8 ...They no longer saw anyone, but Jesus only...

2. Main context—homes

Mark 2:1b ...and it was heard that He was at home.

Rom. 16:5 The church, which is in their house...

3. Core concern—the word

Mark 2:2 And many were gathered together, so that there was no longer room, not even at the door. And He spoke to them the word.

Psa. 33:9 He spoke, and it was. He commanded, and it stood.

4. Critical need—community

Mark 2:3-4 And they came, bringing to Him a paralytic carried by four men. And being unable to bring him to Him because of the crowd, they removed the roof where He was. And when they had dug through, they lowered the mat on which the paralytic was lying. And Jesus, seeing their faith, said to the paralytic, Child, your sins are forgiven.

Gen. 1:26 Let Us make man in Our image...

Eccl. 4:9-12 Two are better than one, because they have a good reward for their labor; for if they fall, the one will lift up his companion. But woe to the one who falls and does not have another to lift him up! Again, if two lie together, they keep warm. But how can one be warm alone? And while a man may prevail against the one, the two will withstand him; and a threefold cord is not quickly broken.

Psa. 25:16 Turn toward me, and be gracious to me, for I am alone and afflicted.

Acts 13:1 Now there were in Antioch, in the local church, prophets and teachers: Barnabas and Simeon, who was called Niger, and Lucius the Cyrenian, and Manaen, the foster brother of Herod the tetrarch, and Saul.