

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

LESSON 2

THE SERVANT SON'S INITIAL MESSAGE AND MINISTRY 1:14 – 8:30

Fame and Popularity 1:14-45

Preaching and Discipling 1:14-20

Exercising Power and Authority 1:21-45

Praise God for your desire to study the Bible. We welcome you to join our Thursday Night Bible Study sessions at FAME, 7:30 – 9:00 PM.

Directions: Please read and study the scripture lesson and any other scripture references, the Illumination section, and the Observation section, than answer the questions in the Exploration section. When you submit your answers on the answer sheet a Bible study teacher will review your answers and provide comments within 2 weeks of submission. These comments will enrich your Bible study experience and is not intended to grade or judge your knowledge or understanding.

Mark 1:14 - 45 NIV	Illumination
<p>¹⁴After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵"The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God is near. Repent and believe the good news!"</p> <p>¹⁶As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷"Come, follow me," Jesus said, "and I will make you fishers of men." ¹⁸At once they left their nets and followed him. ¹⁹When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. ²⁰Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.</p> <p>²¹They went to Capernaum, and when the Sabbath came, Jesus went into the synagogue and began to teach. ²²The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law. ²³Just then a man in their synagogue who was possessed by an evil^[e] spirit cried out, ²⁴"What do you want with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God!" ²⁵"Be quiet!" said Jesus sternly. "Come out of him!" ²⁶The evil spirit shook the man violently and came out of him with a shriek. ²⁷The people were all so amazed that they asked each other, "What is this? A new teaching—and with authority! He even gives orders to evil spirits and they obey him." ²⁸News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee.</p> <p>²⁹As soon as they left the synagogue, they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. ³⁰Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told Jesus about her. ³¹So he went to her, took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. ³²That evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon-possessed. ³³The whole town gathered at the door, ³⁴and Jesus healed many who had various diseases. He also drove out many demons, but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was.</p> <p>³⁵Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. ³⁶Simon and his companions went to look for him, ³⁷and when they found him, they exclaimed: "Everyone is looking for you!" ³⁸Jesus replied, "Let us go somewhere else—to the nearby villages—so I can preach there also. That is why I have come." ³⁹So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.</p> <p>⁴⁰A man with leprosy^[f] came to him and begged him on his knees, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." ⁴¹Filled with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched the man. "I am willing," he said. "Be clean!" ⁴²Immediately the leprosy left him and he was cured. ⁴³Jesus sent him away at once with a strong warning: ⁴⁴"See that you don't tell this to anyone. But go, show yourself to the priest and offer the sacrifices that Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them." ⁴⁵Instead he went out and began to talk freely, spreading the news. As a result, Jesus could no longer enter a town openly but stayed outside in lonely places. Yet the people still came to him from everywhere.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ❖ Time – the Greek word “<i>karios</i>” used in verse 15 means the right or opportune moment (the supreme moment). ❖ Kingdom of God – the Aramaic term behind the Greek term means “kingly rule”, “sovereignty” or “reign”. The emphasis is on someone ruling rather than the area that is ruled. ❖ Synagogue - a place of worship and a school for the Jews since the Temple in Jerusalem was so far away. On Saturday the Jewish men would gather in synagogue to hear prayers, the scriptures read and interpretation from a scribe. Usually there was not a permanent scribe and they relied on visiting teachers. This is why Jesus was able to teach in synagogue. (The scribes were the forerunner of the rabbis.) ❖ Amazed/Astounded - in verse 22 the Greek word is different than the word used in verse 27. In verse 27 the Greek word, <i>ethambethesan</i>, has an added element of fear or alarm. ❖ Leprosy – a disease were some forms were contagious, dis-figuring and/or deadly. People who had this disease could not live in the community. They had to live with other who had leprosy outside of the community.

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Observations

- ❖ Mark begins his account of the ministry of Jesus the Christ on earth after John the Baptist was arrested. John 3:22-24 indicates that John the Baptist and Jesus the Christ did ministry together before the arrest of John the Baptist in Judea. As Jesus began His ministry he returns to Galilee.
- ❖ Jesus came preaching/proclaiming the “good news of God”. It was the good news of God. Jesus was preaching a good message from God. The good news was Him, the Messiah. The good news that brings life and salvation. As we continue our study of Mark we will learn that the good news of God was not the good news of God that many of the Jews believed that God would send. They wanted and expected other good news.
- ❖ Jesus said in 1:15A, “The time has come.” The Greek word used in this phrase is not *chronos*. Chronos time refers to chronological or sequential time which is the every day measuring of time. The Greek word used is *kairos*. The meaning of this word is totally different than chronos. Kairos means the right or supreme moment. As a result of that moment there will be a major change. In the New Testament it refers to the appointed time when God acts. Jesus' time on earth was not a marking of chronos, but a kairos. He was on earth at the appointed time of God for a particular purpose in which the world would never be the same.
- ❖ Jesus said in 1:15B that “The Kingdom of God is near”. Kingdom of God and Kingdom of Heaven found in Matthew are synonyms. The word kingdom does not refer to God's ruling of land. Rather it refers to God reign, His sovereignty over the mind, heart, and will of humans and therefore in the world.
 - The good news that Jesus was preaching brought the Kingdom of God near.
 - The Kingdom of God calls people into the proper relationship with God so that He is their Lord and King.
 - In order to be part of the God's kingdom a person must accept Jesus as their Savior.
 - The Kingdom is not about material matters like land and wealth because it is a given that it will be provided.
 - Read the Beatitudes in Matthew and Luke. Jesus teaching is describing the hearts, mind and will of the people who are part of the Kingdom of God. As we study the parables and other teachings of Jesus we will see that they too are talking about who we are or should be as members of God's Kingdom.
 - The Kingdom was near as Jesus began His ministry on earth. However it came when He was resurrected. Those who wanted to could become part of the Kingdom.
 - The Kingdom is also in the future when heaven is brought to earth and we live with Jesus for eternity. At that time all the people's mind, hearts and wills will be in completely tuned to the Lord.
- ❖ Jesus message called for a response from the hearers which is done by faith.
 - Repent - Same message as John
 - Believe - accept and trust in the Good News – Jesus the Messiah/Son of God
- ❖ In verses 16 -20 Mark records the calling of four of the disciples – Simon, Andrew, John and James. It appears from John 1:35-42 that Jesus the Christ had met Simon, Andrew and John before when Andrew and John were disciples of John the Baptist. Andrew also brought his brother, Peter to meet Jesus. We also know from Luke 5:10 that John and James were partners of Peter. During their first meeting with Jesus they believed that Jesus the Christ was the Messiah, the Son of God.
 - They were all fishermen. As a fisherman on the Sea of Galilee they were busy and strong. The most common method of fishing was done by nets. Throwing the net into the sea and drawing it out of the water with the fish in the net.
 - Simon and Andrew responded immediately to the call of Jesus. They stopped immediately being fishermen of fish to become fishermen of men and women.
 - James and John also responded immediately to the call of Jesus. It would appear that they were successful business men as fishermen since they had hired help. Their father did not try and stop them from leaving the family business.
 - Their previous knowledge of John the Baptist and Jesus allowed them to partially know what they were being called to do. They followed the Lord. They were available to learn from the Lord, they tried to be obedient; they ministered unto others as directed by the Lord. They did not always understand, nor were they always obedient.

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Observations, continued

- ❖ Jesus and the disciples went to Capernaum where Jesus taught in the synagogue. Verses 21 – 28
 - Jesus taught with authority of the scriptures. He knew the scriptures and did not have to quote other scribes to prove He knew what He was teaching.
 - During the worship service a demon possessed man cried out that Jesus was the Holy One of God.
 - The devil knows Jesus and his followers.
 - Jesus was not ready for the people to know that He was the Messiah.
 - Jesus spoke 4 words and the man was healed.
 - The people were amazed.
 - News spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee by mouth concerning Jesus who teaches with authority and even has authority over evil spirits.
- ❖ Jesus and the four disciples went to the home of Peter or his mother-in-law. It appears that Peter was married. Verses 29 - 34
 - Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law. The writers of the Gospel highlighted different details of the healing:
 - Mark – Jesus took her hand and helped her to get up.
 - Matthew – Jesus touched the woman's hand. Mat. 8:14, 15
 - Luke – Jesus spoke to the fever and it left. Luke 4:38, 39
 - At evening many people came to be healed by Jesus the Christ. Jesus healed them, but would not let the demons speak since they knew who He was. It was not time for the people to know. They were not ready. In verse 34 the word "many" means all who came which were many. Mat. 8:16
- ❖ Jesus had spent the Sabbath, preaching, teaching and healing. He had not had time to rest or spent time with His Father. Therefore He got up early in the morning to pray alone. Verses 35 – 39
 - As a result of Jesus healing the people He was now popular.
 - Jesus told the disciples that they were leaving Capernaum to go to other villages to preach.
 - Jesus wanted to tell everyone the good new of God and about kingdom of God. He did not come just to heal. Healing allowed Him to meet their physical needs as He ministered to their spiritual needs.
- ❖ The healing popularity of Jesus had even spread to the leprosy community. Verses 1:40 -45
 - This man had great courage to approach Jesus given his disease. He knew that he was asking a great deal in just asking Jesus to stop and listen. Most people would run the other way in fear of getting the disease.
 - Jesus expresses his compassion by touching the man to heal him. He also disregarded the Jewish law not to touch a leper. Lev 5:3; 13:1-46; Numbers 5:2
 - Jesus tells the man not to tell anyone of the healing. He also tells the man to follow the law in declaring that he is cleaned of leprosy – show yourself to the priest and offer sacrifices.
 - There is debate as to who Jesus is referring to in verse 44 with the word "them". Was the man's testimony to the priest only or to all the people? I think Jesus wanted the priests to announce the healing to the people instead of the man so that all would know that it was Him who healed. But would the priest announce that Jesus had done the healing?
 - The man did not do as Jesus told him. He could not keep it to himself. He told everyone. But as a result Jesus could no longer walk openly in to town. This interfered with Jesus preaching the good news. Even when He stayed in lonely places outside the towns the people came for healing.

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Submitted By: _____

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Reviewed By: _____

Date: _____

Exploration

Consider the Introduction to the Gospel According to Mark and the Illumination section and Observation section for your answers.

1. Jesus came preaching the good news of God. What good news from God was the Jews expecting and wanted? If you were in bondage what good news would you expect from your God? How many times do we miss a blessing or answer to prayer because we have our heart set on God working in one way and He works in another way?
2. Can you think of some other karios moments in the Bible?
3. Compare John the Baptist message with the message of Jesus the Christ.
4. How would explain the Kingdom of God to another Believer and to a non-Believer?
5. When Jesus called Peter, Andrew, John and James they followed him. What does it mean to follow the Lord?
6. Why did Jesus stop the demons from telling who he was?
7. Jesus spent time alone time praying. What does that tell us about our prayer life?
8. As Jesus became popular with the people, He stayed focused on His ministry. What was His ministry? What are some suggestions for staying focused on your ministry when you become popular with people?

Thought For The Week: Jesus preached and is the good news of God.

