

Sermon Outline

In Mark 2:1-12 we find Jesus continuing to display His authority by engaging in 2 important acts.

- I. Jesus preaches the word (vs. 1-2).
- II. Jesus forgives sins.
 - A. The person receiving forgiveness of sins is revealed (vs. 3-4).
 - B. The declaration of forgiveness of sins is spoken (v. 5).
 - C. The questions about the authority to forgive sins are thought (vs. 6-7).
 - D. The authority of the One forgiving sins is displayed (vs. 8-12a).
 - E. The glory is given to God by those who witness the forgiveness of sins (v. 12b).

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, March 1, 2015

Passage: Mark 2:1-12

Memory Passage: Mark 2:9-11

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 2:1-12.** Was it because of Jesus' teaching or His miracles that so many people gathered at His house?
- (b) What was Jesus doing that kept the people attentive, and what does this tell you about the relationship between His teaching and His miracles?
- (c) What character traits do the 4 men exhibit, and to what end were these traits employed?
- (d) What need(s) did the paralytic and his friends think Jesus needed to meet for him?
- (e) How much effort & ingenuity do you put forth in bringing people to Jesus for their needs to be met? How do you work tirelessly to show love to people who are in need of Jesus' healing touch?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 2:1-12.** Whose faith ("their" in v. 5) did Jesus see (i.e. the 4 friends or all 5 of them)?
- (b) How was their faith displayed, and what did it have to do with Jesus' willingness to act on the man's behalf?
- (c) What is surprising about how Jesus responds to their faith?
- (d) At the moment Jesus says, "Son, your sins are forgiven," what would you be thinking if you were (1) the paralytic, (2) one of his four friends, (3) one of the scribes, and (4) someone watching from the gathered crowd?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 2:1-12.** Consider what the scribes are thinking (v. 7): What is correct about their thoughts, and what is incorrect about their thoughts?
- (b) What does Jesus expect the answer to be to the question He asks in v. 9? Provide support for your answer.
- (c) How do you think the scribes would have answered? The people in the crowd? The paralytic and his friends?
- (d) How do you think lost people that you know would answer this question? How does today's church answer it?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Mark 2:1-12 & Daniel 7:13-14.** What is given to the “one like the son of man” in the Daniel passage and what results will follow from these gifts?
- (b) How does Daniel 7:13-14 connect with what we have read so far in Mark? How does it connect specifically with 2:1-12?
- (c) Why does Jesus choose “Son of Man” as a title for Himself (Used 14x in Mark, 81x total in the Gospels)?
- (d) How does healing the paralytic prove that “the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins?”

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Mark 2:1-12.** Why does Jesus act so publically here, especially given the theme of secrecy in this gospel?
- (b) Are the scribes included in the “all” who were “amazed and glorified God?”
- (c) How do you refute the heretical claims of many teachers today who claim, based on verses such as Mark 2:5, that the only reason a person will ever be sick (or lacking wealth, or in anything they want) is because they don’t have enough faith?
- (d) Are you as driven to see lost people come to Jesus as these 4 men were to bring their friend for healing? Are you burdened by compassion for those who are suffering? Does this burden result in you exerting effort on their behalf? Write down at least 3 ways you will act differently next week toward those who are in need of someone to bring them to Jesus.

DATE: March 1, 2015**PASSAGE: Mark 2:1-12***The Authority of the Son of Man*