March 2, 2014 The Bridge Bible Fellowship Pastor Paul S. Brown Mark 1:21ff

"Power Fishing"

- I. The Title -1:1
- II. The Prologue – 1:2-13 (or 15)
- The Body: The Public Demonstration of Who Jesus Is and What He Came to Do 1:14-15:41 A. The Galilean Ministry: Who Jesus Is (the Christ) 1:14-8:30 III.
 - - 1. The Gospel Call (1:14-20)
 - 2. Power Fishing (1:21-28)

Discussion Questions:

- 1. At this point in Mark 1 Jesus has called four men to follow Him and become fishers of men (v. 17). Then v. 20 says they "went away to follow Him." What would you expect to happen next in the story if they are following Him? What does happen next in the story?
- 2. If this section is about Jesus making the men to become fishers of men, why does Mark focus on the TEACHING of Jesus? (See 1:21, 22, 27, 38-39) What does preaching and teaching have to do with fishing for men?
- 3. Who are the scribes (v. 22)? What was their role in Israel? What made the teaching of Jesus different from that of the scribes?
- 4. What is the significance of pointing out that the man with the unclean spirit was IN THEIR SYNAGOGUE? Do demon-possessed people always look wild or crazy and hang out in deserts all alone? What does 2 Cor. 11:13-15 say about Satan and his followers? Are they always obvious? Where would you expect to find demon-possessed people? What is Satan's primary tool to keep people under his power (Jn. 8:44; 2 Cor. 4:1-6; 10:3-5; Eph. 2:1-3; 1 Tim. 4:1)? Where would you expect demons to be today? Do they go to church?
- 5. What was it in Mark 1 that made the demon start yelling at Jesus? What "business" was he referring to? What was Jesus doing that was so upsetting to the demon? What main weapon do we have in our battles with Satan and his workers? (See Jn. 8:31-32; Eph. 6:10-17; 1 Pet. 5:8-9)
- 6. What was the impact on the people in v. 22 and vv. 27-28? What was so amazing to them? Why did Mark include this at the beginning of his Gospel? What point is he making about Jesus?
- 7. What did the Greeks and Romans believe about evil spirits (demons)? What impact would it have on them to find out that Jesus had authority over evil spirits?
- 8. Did the demons, that knew the truth about Jesus, ultimately repent and believe in Him? Did all the people, who heard the authoritative teaching of Jesus and saw the miraculous power that verified the teaching, ultimately repent and believe in Jesus? The demons were terrified and the people were absolutely blown away by what they heard and saw. Is terror or amazement enough to get someone into the Kingdom of God?
- 9. What did the four disciples learn from this first lesson on fishing? What lessons should we learn? What kind of authority is inherent in the message of the Gospel? Do you believe it? If so, what will you do with that message this week? Pray for some specific people and then go share the life-changing, authoritative message of the Gospel with them. Follow Jesus and GO FISHING!