

March 9, 2014

The Bridge Bible Fellowship

Pastor Paul S. Brown

Mark 1:29-39

“Power Fishing, Part Two”

- I. The Title – 1:1
- II. The Prologue – 1:2-13 (or 15)
- III. 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
 - 1. The Gospel Call (1:14-20)
 - 2. Power Fishing (1:21-39)

Discussion Questions:

1. In Mark 1:29-31 we read the story of Jesus healing Peter's mother-in-law (see also Mt. 8:14-15 & Lk. 4:38-39). Was Peter married? (See also 1 Cor. 9:5) Why did Mark want us to know that Peter had a family? What impact does that have on your understanding of Peter walking away from his fishing boat and following Jesus?
2. Why was it significant that Jesus healed her right after coming out of the synagogue on the Sabbath? (See Mark 3:2-4) In what way was the healing of Peter's mother-in-law different than casting out the demon in the previous passage? (see also Mark 1:34) How might you use this passage with a person who claims that all diseases are caused by demons?
3. Why does Mark point out that immediately after being healed she served them? What does this say about the extent of the healing (physical salvation)? What does this say about the proper response of a person who has experienced spiritual salvation?
4. Why does Mark point out that the people waited until after the sun had set to bring ill and demon-possessed people to Jesus? Why was it important for Mark's readers to know that Jesus healed more people than just one woman behind closed doors?
5. In v. 33 Mark says that the "whole city had gathered at the door." Since it is more than likely that every person in the entire city probably did not gather at the door, how do you explain his choice of words? How might this be similar to 1 Tim. 2:4 & 4:10 ("all")?
6. Why didn't Jesus permit the demons to speak in Mark 1:34? What impact would this have had on the ministry of Jesus?
7. After a full day of teaching & miracles, Jesus got a little sleep, but then He got up very early. The word "secluded" was used earlier in Mark 1 and translated wilderness. Why does Mark keep referring to the "wilderness?" Why would Jesus go to a secluded place to pray? Why would the Son of God need to pray? If Jesus needed to pray what should we learn from that?
8. Simon and his companions look for Jesus to tell Him that the crowds want Him to come back. What did the crowds want from Jesus? What might Peter and his companions have wanted Jesus to do? What were they failing to understand at this point about the gospel and why Jesus came?
9. Jesus tells them that He came to preach. Why was preaching more important to Him than healing people and casting out demons? Why was it important that He pray before He preached? Some modern writers say that we have to perform miracles to be effective in evangelism. Is that true? If not, why not? What was the point of the miracles? What are the disciples learning about fishing for men?
10. What impact should this passage have on your life in the following areas? What specifically will you do differently this week because of what you have studied?
 - Evangelism
 - Prayer
 - Priorities
11. Bonus Question: What is the connection between what we have studied so far in Mark 1 and the next two stories that he records for us (1:40-45 & 2:1-12)?