

Sermon Outline

In Mark 1:21-28 we observe 4 realities of Jesus authority.

- I. Jesus exhibits His authority through His teaching (vs. 21-22).
- II. The demons recognized His authority (vs. 23-24).
- III. Jesus exhibits His authority over the spiritual realm (vs. 25-26).
- IV. The people recognized His authority (vs. 27-28).

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, February 15, 2015

Passage: Mark 1:21-28

Memory Passage: Mark 1:21-28

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 1:21-28.** To whom does “they” refer in v. 21, and why is this relevant?
- (b) Locate Capernaum on a map of Jesus’ ministry. Why do you think Jesus moves to Capernaum (cf. Matt. 4:13-16)?
- (c) Did the scribes have no authority when they taught? How were people able to distinguish that Jesus had authority?
- (d) How do you think the scribes responded to the people’s astonishment over Jesus’ teaching?
- (e) Why do you think Mark declined to tell us the content of Jesus’ astonishing preaching?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 1:21-28.** Why do you think the unclean spirit led the man into the synagogue at this particular time, or do you think he was a regular synagogue attendee?
- (b) The unclean spirit asks Jesus 2 questions and makes one statement (v. 24). Explain the meaning & significance of each.
- (c) Why does the unclean spirit speak of being “us” (v. 24) when Mark clearly tells us there is only one unclean spirit?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 1:21-28.** For which of the unclean spirit’s questions/statement does Jesus rebuke him?
- (b) For what reason does Jesus command the unclean spirit to “be silent?”
- (c) Why does the unclean spirit “convulse” the man and “cry out” when he obeys Jesus?
- (d) Why does the unclean spirit recognize Jesus for who He is before the people do?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 1:21-28.** Are the people more amazed at Jesus’ teaching or His ability to cast out demons? Why?
- (b) What was “new” about Jesus’ teaching in the minds of those who heard Him in the synagogue?
- (c) How was the people’s understanding of Jesus’ authority furthered by the fact that He cast out this demon?
- (d) What is Mark’s purpose in placing this event at the beginning of Jesus’ public ministry (remember that Mark is driven by theological, rather than chronological, concerns)?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 1:21-28.** In what ways are you “astonished” and “amazed” when you come in contact with Jesus’ teaching?
- (b) By what other “authorities” are people around you living? To what other authorities are you tempted to submit, and how does remembering Jesus’ authority help you overcome these temptations?
- (c) Do you see evidence of demonic activity in the lives of people in the Cabot area? How should believers respond?
- (d) How do/should you demonstrate Jesus’ authority to the world around you?
- (e) How does the fact of Jesus’ authority affect your evangelism? Your parenting? Your political involvement? Your practice of complaining? Your practice of worrying?

DATE: February 15, 2015

PASSAGE: Mark 1:21-28

Astonishing Authority