

I. Verses 31-37

- A. "Down to Capernaum"
- B. When there are demons in church, there's a problem.
- C. Note: authority – offered by the devil (4:6) – to teach and to attack the devil's works and servants.
 - i. we are constantly offered tradeoffs of what is right and what is beneficial
 - ii. Jesus' example teaches us that we will be given all blessing for obedience

II. Verses 38-39

- A. Simon is Simon Peter, Jesus' most vocal disciple and the leader of the Twelve.
 - i. Scripture tells us that Jesus often stayed with Peter, his wife, and his family.
- B. Notice Jesus' authority to rebuke sickness as well as demon-possession. Both are the result of sin and evil in the world (though *not* just the sick or possessed person's sin).
- C. Becomes well and begins to serve Jesus. (Note: no hint of compulsion.) God's kindness prepares us for service to Him and to others!

III. Verses 40-41

- A. Now the floodgates open, and night falls with Jesus healing and casting out demons.
- B. The demons recognize what the people around them don't seem to: He is the Christ.
- C. He shuts up the demons.
- D. Notice Jesus' dedication to the well-being of these people: He cares for them through the night.

IV. Verses 42-44

- A. Notice Jesus' need for seclusion: Mark tells us this was to pray (1:35).
- B. The crowds here don't understand His world-encompassing mission anymore than those in Nazareth did.
- C. Jesus is on His way to preach to the other cities in the region.
 - i. Jesus was *sent*.
 - ii. To *preach* the *kingdom* of God
 - iii. let me say that preaching includes demonstration of what is preached by the church
 - iv. To the *cities*.
 - v. His priorities should be our priorities

V. Summary

- A. Jesus calls us to give those around us a demonstrated Gospel.
- B. Jesus teaches us that having been redeemed we are to serve Him.
- C. Jesus us shows us that prayer is to be our source of refreshment and guidance.
- D. Jesus calls us to simply receive His grace.
 - i. to believe that He is the Christ, the Son of God
 - ii. to stop relying on our own good works to get us off the hook
 - iii. to put our trust in His cross and resurrection