

The Gospel of Mark Message Series

Discussion Guide based on the January 10, 2010 messages,
"The Doctor Will See You Now" Mark 2:13-17 and "Oil and Water" Mark 2:18-22

Morning Message: "The Doctor Will See You Now"

Big Idea: Jesus comes for sinners that recognize their need.

1. Never underestimate the potential Jesus sees in you. (14-16)
2. Allow God to work in your life by realizing your desperation for Him. (17)

Leading the Session Helps/Discussion Questions

Pre-Discussion Suggestions: (Specifically designed for SS helpers starting the discussion time without the lead teacher present and before the choir arrives.)

- Use the morning announcement sheet to make any announcements that pertain to your group.
 - Make any other announcements that the group may need to hear based on the activities scheduled by your group.
 - Take prayer requests. Include on the board with the other prayer requests to pray for the worship service that is taking place while you are in Sunday School and make sure the group prays for salvation and other life-changing decisions. **Craig's Take on guided prayer time:** Allow members to pray silently for the prayer requests that they feel they need to lift up to God. Then, have someone close the prayer time. This allows the class to pray together but also for people to pray specifically for people instead of someone praying for the prayer requests. Sure, God knows them all, but I believe our most effective prayers are specific prayers. Also, change it up from time to time. Don't always let your prayer time be about praying for the sick. Some Sundays, allow people to specifically pray for people they know of that are lost.
 - Do an *Ice Breaker* ... like the ones mentioned below, just to get people talking.
- ❖ **Ice Breaker:** What words came to mind when Larry played the word association game for "IRS"? What is the parallel to the way people felt 2,000 years ago? How did a tax collector become a tax collector then?
- ❖ **Permanent Ice Breaker:** "If you were going to lead this Bible Study discussion, what questions would you ask based on your sermon notes and/or your memory of the message?"

Discussion Questions based on the Message:

- ❖ Place these two questions side by side on the board and discuss each: 1. How does Jesus view people? 2. How do you view people?
- ❖ Why is there a difference on how we view people and how Jesus views people? What are our tendencies?
- ❖ Are there Pharisees in our church? Why or why not? Are you one?
- ❖ When is the last time you were intentional about being around the lost? What was Jesus example? Why do lost people act lost?
- ❖ Examine verse 17 in light of the following questions: Who does the Church exist for? Who does this Church exist for? How does our purpose statement line up with that purpose?
- ❖ Why is it hypocritical to doubt whether or not God could save someone else?
- ❖ How do people become "dead" to the Gospel message?
- ❖ When do we fully realize how bad we need Jesus? How have you seen or experienced examples of that?

Application

- ❖ Pray for at least 2 lost people who you come into contact with in the course of your weekly activities. Take 1 step toward introducing them to Christ.
- ❖ Ask God to help you identify your potential to work for Him. Then, pray that as He shows you your gifts that He'll provide opportunities to use them.

Evening Message: "Oil and Water"

Big Idea: The radical Gospel cannot blend with old ways of life.

1. Joy should characterize those who have a relationship with Jesus. (18-20)
2. The Kingdom of God is not an addition to life, but a whole new way of life. (21-22)

Discussion Questions

- ❖ Why would people measure their spirituality by the things they do?
- ❖ What is the correct motive for serving God?
- ❖ Why should you fast? Is it expected? How should you fast?
- ❖ Examine verses 21 and 22. What is the point Jesus is trying to make with the cloth and new wine?
- ❖ Does joy characterize your life?
- ❖ Larry asked, "Do you have religion or a relationship?" What's the difference?

Application

- ❖ Write down the things you do for God. Examine and evaluate your motives for each. If you are doing something to try to earn favor and you don't enjoy doing it anyway, stop doing it. If you are doing something because you love it out of gratitude and thankfulness to God, keep on doing it.