

Together with Jesus

Mark - Week Three - Chapters 5 and 6 - Miracles

Mark 5:1-20

The Gerasene Demoniac

After stilling the sea, Jesus and His disciples land in Gentile territory and are “greeted” by a frightening man who Jesus casts a demon from. This causes the towns people to fear and ask Him to leave.

- **What do you suppose the townspeople are afraid of?**

Mark 5:21-43

Two Miraculous Healings

Mark creates an artistic “sandwich” of healings, showing us that there is a connection between these two healings that Jesus does.

- **What is the overall idea that you suppose Mark is pointing to here?**

Mark 6:1-6

Jesus in Nazareth

Jesus comes back to His hometown and stays a few days before the Sabbath. Despite His presence even before the Sabbath, His miracles are almost non-existent. On the Sabbath, people take offense.

- **What do you suppose is offensive to the people about Jesus?**

Mark 6:7-13

Twelve Sent Out

Jesus sends out His twelve representatives into the surrounding area. Mark’s brevity makes us focus on the sparseness of equipment and message of repentance they are preaching.

- **If you were being sent on such a journey, what would you think of packing?**

Mark 6:14-32

Death of John the Baptist

Artistically taking our view away from the disciples while they work out their mission, Mark gives us the story of John and Herod.

- **This may be foreshadowing to Jesus’ death. How is this similar to Jesus’ death?**

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Mark 6:33-44

Feeding the 5000

Instead of getting some time away after their mission, the disciples and Jesus are followed into their desolate place by the crowds who need to be fed.

- **Mark is slowing here and giving us some details. What details do you notice?**

Mark 6:45-52

Walking on Water

Mark shows us that the disciples still don't understand Jesus fully, but are amazed at Him walking on the water.

- **Why do you suppose the disciples' "hearts were hardened"?**

Mark 6:53-56

Healing at Gennesaret

We find ourselves in (approximately) the same place that we started in chapter 5. Mark speeds up, giving us a quick summary statement of all of the miracles that Jesus is performing during this time.

- **Mark is attempting to show us the reactions of people. What do you suppose these reactions are meant to show us?**

Red Letter Challenge this week – Love Your Neighbor

This week, take Jesus' words from Matthew 22:39, "Love your neighbor as yourself" to heart. Technically *everyone* is your neighbor, but this week especially seek out ways to love the people that physically live near you.

