

# Jesus—Who Was He?

Leader's Version

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## Mark 2:1-12

- 1) The passage opens by telling us that so many people had gathered to hear Jesus that there was no room. Why had so many people come to hear Jesus?
  - a. Look at 1:27-28, 32-34, 45 for clues
    - i. **Jesus' teaching and healing had amazed people and news was spreading**
- 2) Why did these people bring their friend to Jesus?
  - i. **To have him healed of his paralysis/sickness**
- 3) In view of the situation what was surprising about what Jesus says in Mark 2:5?
  - i. **"Your sins are forgiven"**
  - b. Why was this surprising?
    - i. **He was lowered through the roof to be healed, not to have his sins forgiven**
- 4) Why were the teachers of the law so irritated by Jesus' remark? (Mark 2:6-7)
  - i. **Jesus is claiming to do what only God can do, so the teachers accuse him of blaspheming (Definition— To speak irreverently about God or slandering Him) \*Will get to this more later on in question 7**
- 5) Were they right?
  - i. **Yes and No. Yes, only God can forgive sin. No, Jesus wasn't blaspheming because he is God. \*Again, will hit on how we know this later on**
- 6) How do we know Jesus has authority to forgive sins? Mark 2:8-12
  - i. **He healed the man**
- 7) What does this incident imply about who Jesus is? Mark 2:7
  - i. **He is God "Who has the power to forgive sins but God alone"**
  - ii. **Ex: If someone steals from you then someone else forgives them for you. The only person that has the authority to forgive is the one whom is sinned against. So by forgiving the man, Jesus is a blasphemer or God. Must accept one or the other. To be a blasphemer is a grave violation in that time.**
- 8) Why do you think Jesus said, "Son, your sins are forgiven" before healing the man?

- i. **Jesus knows...the man's greatest need is to have his sins forgiven, not to be healed.**

**\*This is because as we'll see next week—Sin is much more deadly than any physical disability.**

Questions that may come up during the study...

Mark 2:5 "Son, your sins are forgiven" - Jesus is not implying that there is a direct correlation between the man's sin and his disability (Luke 13:1-5)

# Who was Jesus?

Leader's Version

Mark 4:35-41

- 1) Why are the disciples afraid in Mark 4:37-38?
  - a. **They think they're going to die. Keep in mind, some of the disciples are experienced fisherman, they're not easily scared.**
  
- 2) What is so remarkable about the way in which Jesus calms the storm? (Mark 4:39)
  - a. **He did it with a few simple words. The fact that Jesus instantly calmed not just the furious wind, but the huge waves as well—waves usually linger for hours or even days after large storms, showing that a miracle had definitely just taken place.**
  
- 3) What's surprising about Jesus' response to the disciples?
  - a. **He rebukes (sternly challenges them) for being afraid of losing their lives.**

What does Jesus tell them they need?  
**-Faith**

- 4) Why don't the disciples have faith? In other words, why don't they trust Jesus? (Mark 4:41)
  - a. **They don't know who he is**
  
- 5) What should the disciples have understood from this incident, bearing in mind they were Jews who would have known the Old Testament well? (Ps 89:9, 65:5-7, 107:23-30) **\*Split these up for a guy to read each verse**

**The Old Testament makes it clear that God has power and authority over the wind and waves. The disciples should have seen that Jesus is God.**

\*How would you answer the disciples' question in Mark 4:41 —“Who is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”

**Just leave them with this question, don't ask for a response. It's designed to**

**Reveal whether the guys have grasped who Jesus is. This is critical to building a Foundation of who Jesus is because you are calling them to repentance of Not trusting in Jesus and a lifetime of following him.**

# Who is Jesus?

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\*What does he tell his disciples they need?

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"Lord, Liar, Lunatic, or Myth"

# Why Did He Come?

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## Mark Week 1—Mark 2 Summary

Summarize 1<sup>st</sup> Lesson from Mark 2—Summarize

- What was wrong with the man in Mark 2? (Paralytic)
- What were his friends response? (Carried on stretcher to Jesus, lowering him through the roof)
- What was so strange about Jesus' reaction to the sick man? (Your sins are forgiven!)

Why did Jesus come?

Mark 2:17

“I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

## What Defines a Sinner? \*Help them understand what sin is

10 Commandments: (A few examples) Have them say any commandment...

- No idols (Nothing of greater importance than God)
- Honor mother & father
- Don't use his name in vain
- Don't lie
- Don't steal
- Don't commit adultery (Lust after a woman/man, committed adultery in your heart)
- Don't murder (unjustly angry at another, you've committed murder in your heart)

*Why were we given the 10 commandments? Are these guidelines to make us better people?*

Rom 3:20 For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin.

**Not given to us so we can try to obey them and as a result be good people...Christianity is not a list of do's and don'ts (Rom 3:20 tells us why we have the 10 commandments) (Given to us to show us that we're sinners, if there was no law we could convince ourselves we're okay)**

\*Prove to them that they're sinners, have them say it...then move into what Jesus thinks of sin

## So If We're All Sinners...How Then Does Jesus View Sin?

Mark 9:43-47

43 And if your hand causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life crippled than with two hands to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. 45 And if your foot causes you to sin, cut it off. It is better for you to enter life lame than with two feet to be thrown into hell. 47 And if your eye causes you to sin, tear it out. It is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than with two eyes to be thrown into hell.

- So clearly Jesus is advocating we cut off our limbs...OF COURSE NOT!
- What literary technique do we see Jesus using here? (Hyperbole/Exaggeration)

- Is Jesus saying “Sin is bad, so just try not to do it and you’ll be ok?” (NO!)
  - What does he say? (If you’re hand causes you to sin, cut it off)
  - If this is what he was saying we’d have an easier time identifying Christians
- What’s Jesus ultimately saying about sin? (Hates it, and we need to do ANYTHING to get rid of it)

**(Summary) Mark 9:43-48 Jesus uses exaggeration to show the seriousness of sin and the fact that nothing, even things of greatest importance to humans such as a hand, foot, or eye, can be more important than God. Obviously, Jesus does not mean that people should literally cut off those body parts, because the physical removal of them can’t remove the root of sin in our heart. Jesus’ words serve as a sober warning concerning the severity of sin, which can lead to hell.**

## Where Does Sin Come From?

Mark 7:20-22

20 And he said, “What comes out of a person is what defiles him. 21 For from within, out of the heart of man, come evil thoughts, sexual immorality, theft, murder, adultery, 22 coveting, wickedness, deceit, sensuality, envy, slander, pride, foolishness.

- We heard it in Mark 9:43-48 and we see it here, where does Jesus say sin comes from? (Within)
- Can you cut off your hand and survive? Foot? (Yes, Yes)
- Would cutting off your hands and feet get rid of your sin? (No)
- What would you have to do to get rid of your sin? (Cut out your Heart)

**(Summary) You obviously can’t cut out your heart, our problem is deeper than a surfacy need to be changed and made better...we have an internal problem that’s beyond our ability to fix—Sin**

## Closing

Matt 9:13

13 ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.” (Does this sound familiar?)

Mark 2:17 “I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.”

- What does Jesus desire? (Mercy)
- Not sacrifice? Not works, deeds, doing things for him? (No, mercy)

**Jesus’ offer of salvation is at the heart of Christianity with Him saying. “I desire mercy, and not sacrifice” “Sacrifice” means the observance of religious rituals. More important to God was giving “mercy.”**

**We’ll conclude this study next week when we talk about what Jesus did to allow us to receive this mercy he talks about in 9:13...**

# Why Did He Come?

## **Mark Week 1/Mark Ch. 2 Summary**

Why did Jesus come?

Mark 2:17

## **What Defines a Sinner?**

10 Commandments

*Why were we given the 10 commandments?*

Rom 3:20

## **So If We're All Sinners...How Then Does Jesus View Sin?**

Mark 9:43-47

## **Where Does Sin Come From?**

Mark 7:20-22

## **Closing**

Matt 9:13



# How Does Jesus Respond?

Leader's Version

## How Should We Respond?

### *His Response (Mark 8:31-33)*

- 1) What does Jesus say he “Must” do? (Mark 8:31)  
-Suffer many things, be rejected, killed and in three days rise again
- 2) How did Peter respond? (Mark 8:32)  
-Rebuked Jesus...He was not happy about this with Jesus

How did Jesus respond to Peter?

- Rebuked him and his disciples back! “Get behind me Satan”
- Wasn’t saying Peter and his disciples were Satanic but understood he was being tempted
- Essentially saying “trust me”

### *Our Response (Mark 12:1-11)*

- 1) Who is the “man” in verse 1 and the “owner” in verse 9?  
-God
- 2) What do we learn from God in verse 1-2?  
-God’s generous—the vineyard he sets up is well-equipped and planned. God entrusts people with good things—rents the vineyard out to tenants
- 3) How do the tenants treat the owner in Mark 12:3-5?  
-They don’t give him what he deserves—the fruit from the harvest. They also mistreat his representatives
- 4) What do we learn about God in verses 3-5?  
-He’s patient and merciful. Even though the tenants ignore him and treat his representatives violently, he persistently offers them the chance to do the right thing
- 5) What does the owner do in Mark 12:6?  
-Sends his son

*Remind you of anyone?*

**-Jesus!!!**

- 6) How do the tenants treat the son in Mark 12:7-8?  
**-Even though they knew who he was, they killed him**
- 7) What do they expect the outcome of their actions to be?  
**-Get all the vineyards for themselves, without ever having to give the owner what is due to him. They don't expect to be punished**
- 8) What's the owner's response in Mark 12:9?  
**-Ultimately, he will reject those that reject him. Justice will be done**
- 9) Do you think the tenants would have responded the same way if they knew the owner would judge them?

*His Response (Mark 8:34-38)*

- 1) How does Jesus say we should rightly respond to him? (Mark 8:34)  
**-Deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow him**
- 2) What does he mean when he says, "deny yourself" and "lose your life?" (Mark 8:34-35)  
**-It's not saying deny yourself fun, pleasure, ect. It's let go of self-determination and replacing it with obedience and dependence on the Savior.**
- 3) What kind of man does Jesus address in 8:38?  
**-A man ashamed of Jesus and of his words (The Bible)**

*What will be Jesus response to this man?*

**He will also be ashamed of him when he faces God**

\*What two responses do you have to everything we learned about Jesus and Christianity?

- 1) Deny, reject, or be ashamed of him  
**-He will respond "Depart from me, I never knew you" (Matt 7:22-23)**
- 2) Deny yourself, take up your cross, and follow Him  
**-He will respond like he did in Matthew 25:21...  
"Well done, good and faithful servant...Enter into the joy of your Master."**

*Mark 1:14-15*

How do you follow him? How do you enter into the joy of your Master?  
**-Repent and Believe**