



Mark: Following Jesus Immediately- Authority (wk3)

Introduction: Mark 1 contains one long day, Jesus' first day of public ministry. In this day, he teaches, heals, and shocks people by the authority in which he does so, that rests upon his identity. It would spark the questions, "who is this?" How we respond to Jesus' authority reveals what we believe about that authority.

Discussion Questions

1. Have you ever told someone, they weren't the boss of you? What do you mean by that and why is that a common reflex?
2. Read **Mark 1:21-28** The word that most of our translations use as amazed or astonished, can also be translated as "shock" or "panic." Mark doesn't tell us what Jesus taught here, but from what we know about Jesus' teaching, what might shock or panic the audience? Does that reading change the way you might have thought about this passage before?
3. We know that Jesus often taught, "You have heard it said, but I tell you..." What does that say about his claim of authority? If someone taught at church that way today, what would you think or say?
4. Read **Mark 1:29-34** What do we learn about Peter here? What do we learn about Jesus? Often important people or people with a lot of authority have some separation between them and common people. Based on what Jesus models, what do you think he would think of that?
5. What are all the things Jesus demonstrated or claimed to have power over on this first day of ministry? Did Jesus heal everyone in that town? (probably not if you read ahead) Are we ever satisfied by the amount of healing or intervening that God does? What do we do with that?
6. Read **Isaiah 53:2-5** Why do you think Jesus healed physical disease (and still does) if that isn't the greatest need? How can healing bring you closer to recognizing your ultimate need? Conversely, why is an expectation of healing, unmet sometimes a barrier to faith?

Shaping Your Mind – *"The people were amazed at his teaching, because he taught them as one who had authority, not as the teachers of the law." Mark 1:22*

Moving Forward – Have you recognized Jesus' authority over your life?