

# MARK 1:21-45

## OBSERVATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE SAY?

1. What did Jesus do in Capernaum? What was the response to him?
2. Describe the man with the unclean spirit. How did the people respond to Jesus after he cast out the unclean spirit?
3. What other miracles does Jesus perform in this chapter? What is the response to him?
4. In verse 34 we are told that Jesus did not allow the demons to speak. What reason is given for this?
5. What does Jesus say about himself in verse 38?
6. Go back through this whole chapter and mark the word "immediately".
7. What is the leper told to do and not to do in verses 43-44? What does the leper do (v. 45)?
8. What happens to Jesus as a result of the first chapter of ministry (v. 45)?

## INTERPRETATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN?

1. Verses 21-45 demonstrate to us the authority that Jesus had which caused men to drop everything and follow. In what ways does Jesus demonstrate his authority in this passage?
2. What is an unclean spirit? Compare with verse 34. What are the common elements in these two passages that describe how Jesus dealt with demons? Why didn't he let them speak?
3. One of the things we will run across often in the book of Mark is the command of Jesus for people not to tell of what he did. Look at verses 24-25; 37-38; 43-45. Why do you think Jesus discouraged demons from telling his identity and why he might discourage people from telling about what he had done?
4. According to Mark 1, what was Jesus' purpose (use both explicit statements in the passage, and activities he involved himself in)?
5. What questions do you have about this section?

## APPLICATION: WHAT DOES THE PASSAGE MEAN TO ME/US?

1. If Jesus were here today, how would he deal with you: Would he have something to teach you (if so, what would it be)? Would he heal you (from what)? Would he cleanse you or would he challenge you to leave your nets and follow him?
2. Notice Jesus' example to us in v.35. Evaluate your practice of prayer. Do you have a place, a time, a regularity to your prayer life? Why or why not? What can you do to strengthen your prayer life? What will you do today and this week?
3. Jesus demonstrates his authority in very powerful ways. Are you receptive to Jesus' authority in your life and in every area of your life (thoughts, finances, relationships, etc.)?
4. What verse/verses speak to your situation from this passage (make a personal application)?

## ACTION PLAN

Spend time personally and with others in coming up with an action plan inspired by your study. What in this passage compels you to desire a change, to move to action, to become more like Jesus. It could be a change in thinking, behavior, character. It could be internal or external. It could be personal or relational. Just don't leave studying the Bible as simply an intellectual exercise.