

JESUS HEALS A MAN WITH AN IMPURE SPIRIT

MARK 1:21-28



Parents Notes

Sunday 1st September, 2019

We are learning today: Jesus has authority over everything

Summary

After recruiting his disciples, this is the first time in Mark's gospel we see Jesus teaching or healing, this is the beginning of Jesus' public ministry. This episode at the beginning of Mark's account sets up for the rest of his book the authority of Jesus. Most new teachers on the block would take a while to build up a reputation of authority, but Jesus wows the crowd instantly. First the crowd recognise that he teaches with authority unlike the teachers of the law (v22), then the evil spirit recognises his authority as 'God's Holy One' (v24), by his own authority Jesus is able to heal the man (v25-26), then the crowd affirms his authority having seen all he has done (v27).



This has two implications for us today – we recognise Jesus authority over us, and also we know he has authority over everything so if we are on his side – we don't need to fear.

We should listen to Jesus because his words have power to change our lives & to cast out evil. If anyone was going to be lacking in submission and obedience it would be an evil spirit – and yet he obeys Jesus. As a supernatural being, the evil spirit may recognise things that we are blind to, like who Jesus is. Well if an evil spirit submits to Jesus, how much more should we? It's not enough to believe in Jesus, he should be Lord of our lives.

Questions for home

Who is the person we trust the most or think has the most power? Who do we normally turn to first when there's a problem or something we need? Why?

Do we sometimes think our opinion has more authority than what Jesus says in the Bible?

What would it look like to live with Jesus as your king?

Jesus is stronger than a bully, he is more powerful than a storm, Jesus can make even the worst of things better. Is there something that you want to ask Jesus to help you with? You can pray now and ask him.

Memory verse

'It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but those who are ill. I have not come to call the righteous, but sinners.' (Mark 2:17)

