

# JESUS HEALS SIMON'S MOTHER-IN-LAW MARK 1:29-39



## Parents Notes Sunday 8th September, 2019

**We are learning today:** Seek the healer, not the healing

### Summary

Jesus cares about his friends and is visiting Simon's house with the intention of healing his mother-in-law (v29-30). He heals Simon's mother-in-law of fever simply by holding her hand and helping her up (v30) She goes from sick to serving instantly, an amazing transformation and an appropriate response which demonstrates gratitude to Jesus. Word gets out quickly and soon their house becomes a pop-up hospital with the sick from the town gathering at the door. He healed many with all kinds of diseases and cast out demons of those possessed by them.



Healings are generating great fame for Jesus. But are people simply seeking healing rather than knowing the healer? Their desire to get better, overrides the need to hear God's message through Jesus. Jesus did not come to be famous and, as great as physical healings are, knowing God is even better. So he withdraws to pray (v35) and to preach (v38) stating that that is his main purpose and priority. Miracles serve to authenticate his message, and are not his primary purpose. He heals because he cares, but only his death on a cross can rid the world of sickness forever.

Today we should think about the things we prioritise and pray about – do we only pray our shopping list of health, wealth and happiness? Jesus says our priority should be knowing God through the message he brings. Jesus brings healing, but we should want to know the healer, not just receive his healing or the things we want from him. Do we really want to know Jesus and have a relationship with him?

### Questions for home

Think about the things we pray about. Say a prayer thanking Jesus for who he is, and praying for others, not just asking for things.

What did Jesus make his most important thing? Plan a time when you will tell others about God? What could you invite someone to now?

Make a list of what is important to you and then try to put them in order of importance. Does the way you use your week reflect this order?

### 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)

