

Mark: The Storyteller's Gospel (Mark 2)

Wednesday, March 6, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Series objective

Regardless of what stage we are at in life, whether we are in the first steps to wanting to know more about God or 30 plus years of walking with Christ, we all need to know Jesus. By God's design, the best way to do this is by studying the Bible. The book of Mark gives us a very real and personal look at Jesus, almost as if we were sitting down with Him. Many people believe that the writing of Mark was significantly influenced by Peter, the disciple with whom many of us identify the most (often speaking and acting before thinking!!). Peter also loved Jesus in a very real way.

This series is designed to help us take a personal look at Jesus in a way that makes us look in the mirror. I think most of us would admit that we would live very different lives if we lived every moment as if we were completely devoted to Christ and what He did for us.

Overview of Chapter 2

Verses 1–12	Jesus heals a paralytic
Verses 13–17	Jesus calls Levi (Matthew)
Verses 18–22	Jesus questioned about fasting
Verses 23-28	Jesus' claim to be Lord of the Sabbath

Theological Question (**theos** is the *Greek word for God*; **-ology** means *study of...*)

1. Did Jesus claim to be God? If so, consider the following:
 - a. What characteristics did Jesus demonstrate that can only be attributed to God?
 - b. Was Jesus ever worshiped as God while on earth?
2. In verses 1 through 12 we read about Jesus healing the paralytic.
 - a. What does this story tell us about the faith of the paralytic's friends?
 - b. Why did Jesus say in verse 9: *Which is easier: to say to this paralyzed man, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up, take your mat and walk'?*
3. In verses 13 through 17 we read about Jesus calling Levi (Matthew) to be an apostle.
 - a. Why do you think Matthew so quickly followed Jesus?
 - b. Why do you think the Pharisees were so quick to criticize those who were following Jesus?
 - c. Who are the "sick" today?

4. In verses 18 through 22 we read about Jesus being questioned by the Pharisees about His disciples not fasting.

a. Why do you think the Pharisees were so quick to point this out?

b. What is meant by Jesus by the **highlighted text** in Verses 21 and 22? Are there any applications for us today?

²¹ *"No one sews a patch of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. Otherwise, the new piece will pull away from the old, making the tear worse."* ²² *"And no one pours new wine into old wineskins. Otherwise, the wine will burst the skins, and both the wine and the wineskins will be ruined. No, they pour new wine into new wineskins."*

5. In verses 23 through 28 we read about Jesus' claim to be Lord of the Sabbath.

a. In these verses, and many we have read so far, what is the primary concern of the Pharisees?

b. Based on the "issues" we observe in the lives of the Pharisees what warnings exist for us? In other words, in what area is Jesus primarily concerned?

Next week's study

Read Mark 3. Be prepared to discuss the role Jesus plays (and played) in the Spiritual Realm, especially with regards to the power and authority of Satan and his demons.