

4- Servants Serve

Mark 1:21-34

The call of service we have discovered is not an option for those who name the name of Christ as Savior. It is simply a matter of obedience, if we will serve. We look today at a portion of the gospel of Mark that gives us a great example of Jesus serving. I simply have placed the title, *Servants Serve*, on this section.

When we think of serving most of the time it has a negative connotation of a hired hand or someone who is poor and has to do menial jobs to survive. May I suggest that this is not the case for the call to be a servant of Christ? We have the great example of Jesus serving to teach us to serve. Look at ways that Christ served in this section of Mark.

**I- He Taught:**

First, He taught. *Mark 1:21 And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught. 22 And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.*

Now I realize that we will never rise to the authority of Christ in our teaching. The crowds were astonished at what He taught. So how does this example of Him teaching flesh out into our lives. It fleshes out with those who respond to the need for teachers in Sunday School. Let me say thank you for those who serve.

May I suggest, this teaching model goes farther and deeper than that into our families and circles of friends? We are all teachers as well as learners. God's Word exhorts us in *Deuteronomy 6:6-7 HCSB These words that I am giving you today are to be in your heart. 7 Repeat them to your children. Talk about them when you sit in your house and when you walk along the road, when you lie down and when you get up.*

**II- He Ministered:**

We have two different settings in which we see Jesus minister to needs. One is a man who is possessed and the other is a sick woman who needed a touch. Now if I may put a caveat on this, I realize that we will not have power over demons that Christ had or power over sickness. This however does not diminish our need to minister.

*Mark 1: 23 And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, 24 Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God. 25 And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him. 26 And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.*

Jesus rebukes the man with an unclean spirit and casted out the demon. As we look at this let's rejoice that Jesus was God and had power over the dark side. The application to our lives is that we learn to see hurting people for what they are, hurting and needing a healing touch from the hand of God. We often look at people with disgust and disdain instead of seeing the value they have after redemption.

*Mark 1: 27 And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him. 28 And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee.*

The fame of Jesus spread. The word got out that a Servant was in the area.

The next event is found in *Mark 1:29 And forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. 30 But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her. 31 And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them.*

The mother in law of Peter was sick. Mark tells us that Jesus healed her. Now certainly we see the service of Christ. Did you notice what it says about the one who was healed? It says, "*she ministered*" unto them.

One motivation to serve is that we have been the recipient of someone who served us, or a healing from the Lord, or, you fill in the blank. We are told in *1 Corinthians 6:20 For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.*

Notice what Jesus said in *Luke 12:43 ESV Blessed is that servant whom his master will find so doing when he comes. ...48...Everyone to whom much was given, of him much will be required, and from him to whom they entrusted much, they will demand the more.*

In the next few verses in Mark we see that Jesus continued to serve. This should not surprise us because after all, *Servants Serve. Mark 1:32 And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils. 33 And all the city was gathered together at the door. 34 And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.*