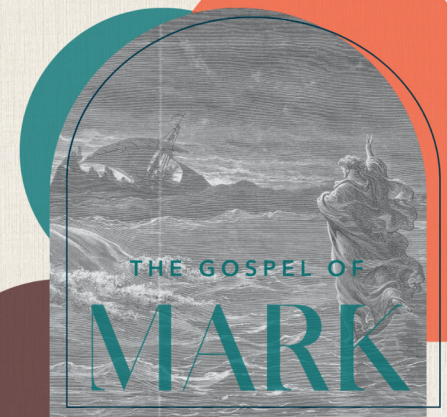


October 8, 2023

GETTING PAST YOUR PAST

Pastor Roger Poupart // Mark 6:1-13



PREPARE YOUR HEART & MIND

Begin this time in prayer, confessing any sins you can recall, thanking the Lord for the gift of His Word, and asking for His Spirit to guide you in your time.



Jesus went out from there and came into His hometown; and His disciples followed Him. 2 When the Sabbath came, He began to teach in the synagogue; and the many listeners were astonished, saying, "Where did this man get these things, and what is this wisdom given to Him, and such miracles as these performed by His hands? 3 Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary, and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon? Are not His sisters here with us?" And they took offense at Him. 4 Jesus said to them, "A prophet is not without honor except in his hometown and among his own relatives and in his own household." 5 And He could do no miracle there except that He laid His hands on a few sick people and healed them. 6 And He wondered at their unbelief. And He was going around the villages teaching.

7 And He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits; 8 and He instructed them that they should take nothing for their journey, except a mere staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belt— 9 but to wear sandals; and He added, "Do not put on two tunics." 10 And He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave town. 11 Any place that does not receive you or listen to you, as you go out from there, shake the dust off the soles of your feet for a testimony against them." 12 They went out and preached that men should repent. 13 And they were casting out many demons and were anointing with oil many sick people and healing them.



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REFLECT/CONNECT

Use these questions for a time of individual reflection or to connect with others in meaningful conversation.

- In what ways were you encouraged by last week's study?

- When did you first hear the gospel and understand its meaning?

These questions are designed as a guide for individual study and to foster spiritual conversation with a group of people.

GROW IN THE WORD

01. Jesus returned to his hometown of Nazareth to continue his ministry. The people were amazed by his teaching and by his works, but they struggled to accept Jesus as more than the local craftsman's son. Jesus was amazed at their lack of faith and the miracles he performed were limited (v. 1-6).

- What stands out most to you in this passage?

GROW IN THE WORD

- How do the Nazarenes' preconceived notions about Jesus limit their understanding of his message? Consider the specific questions they raise.

- What do you learn about the nature and importance of faith through this story? See also Acts 14:9-10; Matthew 9:28-29; Hebrews 11:6.

02. Jesus sent the twelve disciples out in pairs to replicate his ministry. He instructed them to travel as lightly as possible and to rely on the hospitality of those they met. The disciples went out and preached Jesus' message performing the same types of miracles that Jesus performed (v. 7-13).

- How does this passage inform your understanding of what it means to be a disciple of Jesus? See also Matthew 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; Ecclesiastes 4:9-12.



GROW IN THE WORD

- Why do you think Jesus made such an emphasis on what the disciples were to take on their journey?

- In what ways do you want your thoughts, feelings, attitudes, and actions to change in light of this passage?

UPCOMING EVENTS

HYMN SING

Sunday, October 22 | 5 pm | Fellowship Hall

Come join us for an evening filled with prayer, scripture reading, and worship as we sing some of the great hymns of the faith. All are invited and registration is not required.



CHURCH PICNIC

October 15 | 12:30 pm | Morgan's Wonderland

We're looking for to spending the afternoon together as a community and hope you can join us! You can purchase lunch from the food trucks or bring in your own and the whole family is invited! Learn more online or in the app.



GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Pray to begin your group time. Remind the group why you are meeting: to connect in meaningful relationships, to grow spiritually, and to engage in the life and work of the church together. Reflect on the values you want to share as a group (i.e. confidentiality, authenticity, grace).

CONNECT (30-40 MIN)

You can use these suggestions to foster connection and build community in your group. You can break your group into smaller parts if needed, pick a question to discuss, and let each member get to know one another.

- Spend a few minutes catching up with one another. Share something you are grateful for this week.
- Ask the second question in the Connect section of the passage guide. Let the leaders answer the question first as a model and allow group members to think it over.

GROW (30-40 MIN)

Gather back as a big group if you broke up earlier and have one person pray over your time discussing God's word. As you discuss, don't worry if there are questions left unanswered or unresolved. Reach out to ministry leaders or pastors for any needed clarification.

- Read each section of Scripture you are focusing on prior to discussion. Give people a chance to discuss what stood out most to them in the passage.
- Select 1-2 of the questions that contain cross-references from each section. Read the cross-references together and discuss the selected questions.

ENGAGE (30-40 MIN)

Reflect on the biblical truth God revealed to you this week and discuss a plan of action to apply what you have learned. Gather in smaller groups of 2-4 again. Discuss your plan of action and pray for one another.

- Take time to consider and discuss the last question of the passage guide. Take note of the ways in which you can hold each other accountable according to people's responses.
- Close group time by sharing prayer requests and praying for one another.