

**LESSONS THIS QUARTER**

- 1) 03 Mar..... Mark 01..... Calls
- 2) 10 Mar..... Mark 02..... Forgives
- 3) 17 Mar..... Mark 03-04..... Unites
- 4) 24 Mar..... Mark 05..... Restores
- 5) **31 Mar..... Mark 06..... Sends**
- 6) 07 Apr..... Mark 07..... Includes
- 7) 14 Apr..... Mark 08-09..... Commands
- 8) 21 Apr..... Mark 15..... Saves
- 9) 28 Apr..... Mark 10..... Serves
- 10) 05 May..... Mark 11-12..... Purifies
- 11) 12 May..... Mark 13..... Promises
- 12) 19 May..... Mark 14..... Prepares
- 13) 26 May..... Mark 15-16..... Lives

**INTRODUCTION**

- Jesus finds no respect in His home church, John the Baptist is beheaded for trying to split a marriage up; and Jesus feeds 5000, walks on water, and continues to heal the multitudes forcing us to ask tough questions:
  1. When is it OK to leave a church?
  2. Is the sanctity of marriage worth fighting and dying for?
  3. Is God working supernatural healings today? And if not, why not?

Passage	Comments
Mark 6:1-6	<p><b>No Honor at Home</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• vv1-4. Jesus returns to his home turf of Nazareth and receives a very cold welcome                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Notice even Jesus could not change the obstinate minds of even His own home town friends &amp; family. <b>Remember</b>, even God, Himself, cannot work with obstinate cows, but only with cooperative sheep .....<a href="#">Hosea 4:16</a></li> <li>♦ Since He taught with authority (<a href="#">Mat 7:29</a>), He was probably accused of being an uneducated know-it-all, and even for being arrogant by His hometown church peeps</li> <li>♦ v6. His only recourse was to let the dead bury the dead and stroll down the street to the next township                                     <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- <b>How long &amp; hard should we struggle to fix church problems? Or do we leave when feelings 1<sup>st</sup> get hurt?</b></li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> <li>• v3. Mary's husband, Joseph, was probably dead by this time, and Jesus had 4 half-brothers &amp; at least 2 half-sisters, because Joseph was not His biological father.                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ <b>Catholics</b> believe these siblings were Jesus' cousins since they believe Mary was a perpetual virgin (If she was, Joseph &amp; Mary did not have a biblical marriage)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• vv5-6. Jesus could only do a few healings in His hometown, not because He lost His power to do so, but because only a few were bold enough to go to Him for a healing</li> </ul>
	<p><b>When Is It Biblically Appropriate to Leave A Church?</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Time to take the Gospel on the road .....<a href="#">Mat 28:18-19</a>; <a href="#">Acts 1:8</a></li> <li>2. Abhorrent teachings . <a href="#">Rm 16:17,18</a>; <a href="#">2Thes 3:6,14,15</a>; <a href="#">2Cor 6:14</a>; <a href="#">Rev 2:14-16</a></li> <li>3. Judgement or Differing Philosophies.....<a href="#">Jer 51:45</a>; <a href="#">Acts 15:39</a></li> <li>4. They defame you (hostile environment as Jesus found out in His home church – no respect).....<a href="#">Prov 14:7</a>; <a href="#">Mt 10:23</a>; <a href="#">Acts 9:24,25</a>; <a href="#">18:6</a>; <a href="#">19:9</a></li> </ol>
	<p><b>CAUTION ON DROPPING OUT OF CHURCH FRIVOLOUSLY.</b> Some churches in Revelations 2-3 were noted for severe problems such as being dead (Sardis); lacking love (Ephesus), having false doctrines (Pergamum); tolerating immorality (Thyatira), and having wealth but no zeal (Laodicea). Yet, Christ acknowledged them as His Church, and He applauded the true believers who were in some of them for hanging tough &amp; remaining faithful.</p>
Mark 6:7-13	<p><b>Calling and Sending the Apostles</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• It is interesting to note the Apostles were sent out with tremendous abilities to work all kinds of miracles, yet their faith and biblical knowledge were quite immature                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ This shows that God does not need to wait for us to reach a high level of doctrinal or personal maturity before He can use us. We just need teachability &amp; willingness</li> <li>♦ Also, the Apostles were to dress in normal attire (no fancy clothes or 2 tunics or a private jet), and they were not to look for better accommodations, but to gracefully accept what was freely offered to them.</li> <li>♦ In essence, the Apostles, with no money or provisions, solely relied on the providential care of God to direct other people to meet their needs</li> </ul> </li> <li>• The Apostles had an urgent message to tell, but they were not to force themselves or their message on anyone</li> </ul>

Passage	Comments
6:14-29	<p><b>Should We Lose our Head Challenging Bad Marriages?</b></p> <p>John the Baptist (JTB) did, and it was between two unbelievers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v18. JTB told Herod it was “not lawful” for him to have his brother’s wife, Herodias..... <a href="#">Lev 18:16</a>; <a href="#">20:21</a>; &amp; <a href="#">1Thes 4:3-6</a></li> <li>• Herod's lineage was Arabian. His father was an Idumaeen (or Edomite, from the lineage of Esau, Jacob's brother), but his ancestors converted to Judaism. Herod was raised as a Jew. (src: <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herod_the_Great">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Herod_the_Great</a>)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ ...and Herodias was a niece of both Herod Antipas and Herod II (Philip). She left her uncle Philip for uncle Antipas</li> </ul> </li> <li>♦ <b>Principle to Know.</b> The transcending moral laws of God are applicable to Jews and non-Jews, believers and non-believers throughout all generations                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ How would you fix this problem of adultery &amp; incest (uncle &amp; niece) <input type="checkbox"/> Do Nothing   <input type="checkbox"/> Pray about it   <input type="checkbox"/> Challenge it</li> </ul> </li> <li>• If Herod Antipas, Herodias, and her 1<sup>st</sup> husband, Philip, were all unsaved and non-Jews, <b>why does it matter who is married to whom? Did JTB lose his head for nothing? Or is the sanctity of marriage worth fighting and dying for?</b></li> </ul>
What Makes a Valid Marriage?	<p><b>Principle to Know.</b> A valid marriage is one where God joins together a man and a woman in a perpetual (life-time) covenant, which can only be broken by one's death</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Heterosexual marriages are valid in the eyes of God whether it is between 2 believers, or 2 non-believers, or between 1 believer and 1 non-believer – As long as both can leave their parents &amp; cleave to each other</li> <li>• Jesus even acknowledged the 5 marriages of the woman at the well (a non-believer) as being valid (God-joined). but He did not acknowledge her live-in boyfriend situation as valid, legal, or appropriate, &amp; He did not try to fix it.....<a href="#">John 4:16-18</a></li> <li>• Even polygamous relationships were acknowledged by God (e.g., King David). God even acknowledged polygamous marriages of unbelievers (e.g., Abimelech, <a href="#">Gen 20:17</a>)                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Solomon had 700 wives &amp; 300 concubines .....<a href="#">1 King 11:3</a></li> </ul> </li> <li>• <b>BUT, God does not bind the following types marriages:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Same sex unions &amp; bestial unions</li> <li>♦ ...and a host of incestual and familial unions found in <a href="#">Leviticus 18 &amp; 20</a> (step-siblings, step-parents, aunts &amp; uncles, in-laws, and by implication parents &amp; siblings, etc)</li> </ul> </li> <li>• For more on invalid marriages, see lesson on <a href="#">1Corinthians 7</a> <a href="https://rodoneil.com/wp-content/uploads/SS-1Cor-07-2018a.pdf">https://rodoneil.com/wp-content/uploads/SS-1Cor-07-2018a.pdf</a></li> </ul>
6:30-44	<p><b>Feeding the 5000 – Another Attestation of Jesus’ Deity</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v31. The popularity of Jesus &amp; His disciples was so strong they didn't even have time to eat. <b>WHY?</b> Because they had a 100% success rate in all their healings!!! <b>Wouldn't we take our dying loved ones to anyone who had a guaranteed cure?</b></li> <li>• <b>Feeding 5000.</b> The only miracle recorded in all 4 Gospels</li> <li>• In <a href="#">Mat 14:14</a>, Jesus healed everyone before He fed them</li> </ul>
6:45-52	<p><b>Jesus Walked on Water</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Another attestation of Jesus being God since He could change, over-ride, or void the laws of physics and nature</li> </ul>
6:53-56	<p><b>Jesus Continued to Heal All</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• v56. "...and all who touched his garment were healed"</li> <li>• Wouldn't it be nice to have 100% healing power today!                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>♦ Hospitals worldwide would be emptied instantaneously</li> <li>♦ Down Syndrome, Amputations → ALL healed</li> </ul> </li> </ul>

**CONCLUSION / APPLICATIONS**

We need to ask some more tough questions:

- If marriage is so important why do churches promote/condone adultery by remarrying divorcees? How can we then challenge same sex unions?
- And if God is not supernaturally healing 100% today, how do we bring hope & comfort to the sick and dying, and to those having debilitating handicaps?

**NEXT WEEK: Mark 7.** Jesus addressed legalistic doctrines of men; He remotely healed the daughter of a Greek heathen, then he healed a deaf/dumb man with a 3-step process – Stick, Spit, and Speak.

