

Week 6 The Gospel of Mark THE KINGDOM OF GOD IS AT HAND

Mark 2:21-27, 3:1-6 Easter reading: Mark 16:1-8

Read Mark 2:21-3:6

What stands out to you?

Look at 2:20-21. Jesus continues to speak here about how his coming changes traditional religious practices. What is he saying?

Look at 2:23-3:6.

How is our life before salvation like an “old garment” that cannot be merely patched up?

How is our relationship with God in Christ like “new wine” that cannot be contained within our old way of life?”

What is Jesus saying about himself when he says I am “Lord of the Sabbath?”

How does Jesus show that they are missing the “point” of the Sabbath — and what is that “point”?

What are some of the practical differences there should be between a religious person who is trying to be good and a Christian who understands the gospel?

(Suggestion – watch Mark Driscoll link below on your own time)

When is it a good idea to do something that you know will result in public criticism?

What kinds of people make you angry? Is it people who are caught up in a cycle of self-destructive sin? Is it people who claim to be righteous but who disregard the ways of God?

Christ’s resurrection is foundational to the Christian faith because it is the proof that Christ is who He claimed to be – the Messiah. It also affects our faith in other ways. What importance do the following passages place on Christ’s death and resurrection for us in our Christian walk?

LOOK UP THESE VERSES 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 Romans 5:6-8 Romans 6:5-7

What do you find most meaningful about what Christ did for us?

DIGGING DEEPER

[How Zeal Goes Bad - Larry Osborne # 9](#)

Notes for How Zeal Goes Bad

KEEP YOUR EYES ON JESUS - Matt Chandler

Nine Distinctions Between the Gospel and Religion - Mark Driscoll - 2009

AN EMPTY TOMB FOR EMPTY LIVES - Chris Brown

OVERWHELMED- Pete Briscoe - Timely Easter Sermon 2016



Week 6: Fortune-Tellers

Many times, our faith deteriorates as our circumstances deteriorate. When that happens, our faith is quickly overcome by fear, and the future looks dark. The apostle Peter experienced this, and he temporarily fled his faith in Jesus.

Discussion Questions

Leveraging Mark's words, have you ever "deserted" faith and "fled"? If so, why? If not, why not?

Why does our faith have a tendency to rise and fall with circumstances? Did you come to faith in the midst of good times or bad times?

Read Mark 14:48–50.

- What stands out to you?
- What are some reasons everyone deserted Jesus and fled?

Read 1 Peter 3:9.

- What stands out to you?
- What serves as the anchor or stabilizing force for Peter's faith? • What role does suffering play in the life of a believer?

Changing Your Mind

It's human nature to assume the worst about God when circumstances are at their worst. It can seem as if God is far away or not there at all. In the darkest hours, even Peter believed this for a time. But God was near to Peter, and he is near to us as well. The kingdom of God is near, and everyone is invited to participate.