

Living Connections Bible Study



Who's in Charge?

Text: Mark 1:21-2:12; Luke 5:12-26

Prayer

Icebreaker: Explain why the final authority to forgive and absolve us from our guilt as sinners belongs only to God. Psalm 51:4

1. What tremendous claim does Jesus make in Matthew 28:18?

2. What were the people amazed about when they heard Jesus speak? Mark 1:21-22; Matthew 7:28-29; Hebrews 1:1-2

3. How did Jesus demonstrate His authority in Mark 1:23-28? Luke 10:17-20

4. What power/authority did Jesus demonstrate in the following verses? Mark 1:29-34; Luke 5:17 John 5:25-29; 11:21-22, 25-26

5. What was the vital resource for Jesus' power and authority? Mark 1:35; Luke 5:15-16; 6:12; Matthew 14:23

6. What was Jesus' primary objective when speaking to the multitudes? Mark 1:37-38; Luke 19:10

7. What frustrating obsession of the people often prevented this? Mark 1:37-45

8. Describe the conditions at the house in Capernaum where Jesus was teaching?
Mark 2:1-2; Luke 5:17

9. How did the posture and attitude of the crowd hinder some men from bringing their paralyzed friend to Jesus, and what lesson should we learn from this?
Mark 2:3-4a; Luke 5:18-19a

10. What lessons can we learn from the four men who brought their friend to Jesus?
Mark 2:3-5a

11. What need in the paralyzed man did Jesus address first before healing Him? Mark 2:5b

12. Why were the religious leaders alarmed by this? Mark 2:6-7; John 5:22

It was important for Jesus to forgive this man first, because he was about to demonstrate one of the most profound evidences of His claim to Deity. The Jews believed that sin and suffering were integrally connected. Human suffering, sickness and death are all the result of Adam's fall into sin. But these men argued that if a person was suffering they must have personal sin to blame for it. The Jewish Talmud states, *No one gets up from his sickbed until all his sins are forgiven.*

13. How then did Jesus demonstrate that He had the authority to forgive sins? Mark 2:8-12

Think about it this week:

The blood of Jesus Christ God Son cleanses us from all sin. 1 John 1:7

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. 1 John 1:9

Your sins are forgiven you for His [Jesus] namesake. 1 John 2:12

You in love to my soul delivered it from the pit of corruption [Hell]: for you have cast all my sins behind your back. Isaiah 38:17

As far as the East is from the West, so far has He removed our transgressions from us. Psalm 103:12

He will again have compassion on us, and will subdue our iniquities. You will cast all our sins into the depths of the sea. Micah 7:19

