

“Jesus Establishes His Ministry Direction”
“A Journey with Jesus” Part 3
Mark 1:14-39

1. Jesus announces His message.

Now after John had been taken into custody, Jesus came into Galilee, preaching the gospel of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."

Mark 1:14-15 NAS

Understanding the Gospel:

- The gospel of God—Mark 1:14
- The gospel of God's grace—Acts 20:24
- The gospel of peace—Ephesians 6:15
- The gospel of our Lord Jesus—2 Thessalonians 1:8
- The gospel of Christ—Romans 15:19
- The gospel of the Kingdom—Luke 16:16

By this gospel you are saved...For what I received I passed on to you as of first importance: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures, that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day according to the Scriptures, and that he appeared to Peter, and then to the Twelve. After that, he appeared to more than five hundred of the brothers at the same time, most of whom are still living, though some have fallen asleep.

1 Corinthians 15:2-6 NAS

What is the appropriate response to the gospel?
Repent and Believe

Godly sorrow brings repentance that leads to salvation and leaves no regret, but worldly sorrow brings death.

2 Corinthians 7:10

But for that very reason I was shown mercy so that in me, the worst of sinners, Christ Jesus might display his unlimited patience as an example for those who would believe on him and receive eternal life.

1 Timothy 1:16

That if you confess with your mouth, "Jesus is Lord," and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For it is with your heart that you believe and are justified, and it is with your mouth that you confess and are saved.

Romans 10:9-10

2. Jesus calls His team.

As He was going along by the Sea of Galilee, He saw Simon and Andrew, the brother of Simon, casting a net in the sea; for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, "Follow Me, and I will make you become fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed Him. Going on a little farther, He saw James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother, who were also in the boat mending the nets. Immediately He called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired servants, and went away to follow Him.

Mark 1:16-20 NAS

- These men had heard and believed Jesus before their call. (John 1:35)
- "Follow Me." is a call to discipleship. (1 Corinthians 4:16)
- Notice their response: Immediately they followed Him.

3. Jesus demonstrates the authority of His message.

They went into Capernaum; and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and began to teach. They were amazed at His teaching; for He was teaching them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. Just then there was a man in their synagogue with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, saying, "What business do we have with each other, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are — the Holy One of God!" And Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet, and come out of him!" Throwing him into convulsions, the unclean spirit cried out with a loud voice and came out of him. They were all amazed, so that they debated among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him." Immediately the news about Him spread everywhere into all the surrounding district of Galilee.

Mark 1:21-28 NAS

- Authority—not as the scribes
- Amazed—Is this a new teaching?
- Jesus becomes famous—news spread everywhere

4. A day at work with Jesus.

And immediately after they came out of the synagogue, they came into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. Now Simon's mother-in-law was lying sick with a fever; and immediately they spoke to Jesus about her. And He came to her and raised her up, taking her by the hand, and the fever left her, and she waited on them. When evening came, after the sun had set, they began bringing to Him all who were ill and those who were demon-possessed. And the whole city had gathered at the door. And He healed many who were ill with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He was not permitting the demons to speak, because they knew who He was.

Mark 1:29-34 NAS

- Jesus was in the synagogue on the Sabbath.
- Why do they allow Jesus to teach?
- The worship service is interrupted by an unclean spirit.
- Jesus silences the evil spirit. (He does not need the testimony of evil.)
- Jesus has authority over evil spirits.
- Jesus goes to Sabbath dinner at Peter's house.
- Jesus heals Peter's mother-in-law on the Sabbath.
- Peter's mother-in-law helps serve the Sabbath meal.
- People come to see Jesus after the Sabbath is over.

5. Jesus sticks to His priorities for ministry.

In the early morning, while it was still dark, Jesus got up, left the house, and went away to a secluded place, and was praying there. Simon and his companions searched for Him; they found Him, and said to Him, "Everyone is looking for You." He said to them, "Let us go somewhere else to the towns nearby, so that I may preach there also; for that is what I came for." And He went into their synagogues throughout all Galilee, preaching and casting out the demons.

Mark 1:35-39 NAS

- Prayer was a priority for Jesus.
- Jesus maintains His focus.
- People show up to receive more ministry.
- Jesus determines that it is time to move on. (Discipleship)
- His preaching and healing demonstrated the gospel and the kingdom.

Application: How responsive are you to God's call? Who are you following? Who is following you? Are you a person of compassion? Ministry is rarely convenient, but what a privilege it is to be a servant of Christ to others.