



Christ healing the paralytic at Capernaum by [Bernhard Rode](#) 1780.

The Gospel of Mark

Jesus' Manhood, Motion, and Mission

Day 1 – Chapter 2 Overview

Welcome

Welcome to this day, friend, and to this time of study! Let's pray: Abba Father, thank You for Your wild plan of rescuing us from our sin. Holy Spirit, please open up our minds so that we may understand what we're reading today. Give us eyes to see, ears to hear, and a heart to obey. Thank You so much! Amen.

Read the Chapter

Read the entire chapter in one sitting. Try to summarize each event briefly; I stick with 10 words or less to help me keep to the main point. Here's an example:

2:1-12 Jesus forgives and heals the rooftop paralytic (4 friends carried).

2:13-17 _____

2:18-22 _____

2:23-28 _____

(We will get more into the Sabbath next lesson, but for continuity, read and summarize this anyway.)

Day 2 – Paralytic & Friends

Report It

Pretend like you are a reporter covering the story of Jesus the Healer. You are in the room, pressed between people, taking notes about what Jesus is saying, when bits of plaster begin to fall on your head and in your lap. Write the story for your editor from your perspective:

A Friend

Now switch perspectives. Pretend you are one of the four friends who is bringing your pal to Jesus. Tell your story—but get into it. You are in motion, passionate, and determined to get your friend to Jesus. How did you get that way? What happens inside of you when you are turned away by the crowd at first?

Day 3 – Levi

Taxes...to a Traitor

Was there actually any patriotic Jew out there who liked Levi? For whom was he collecting taxes? _____ From whom was he collecting taxes? _____ Yet Jesus was fully interested in him. Take hope: He’s interested in you, too, with all your flaws, mistakes, poor allegiances, and deals. Consider the motley crew Jesus was assembling: 4 fishermen...a tax collector...do you think everyone got along well? Write down a few words to describe how you think they felt about each other.

Matthew 5:43-47

Read the passage above with Levi (also called Matthew) in mind. In what ways does it apply to the party-goers in Mark 2:15,16? _____

Jesus was calling His disciples to a higher standard and a new way to see people. How does this challenge you?

Who are modern-day day outcasts like the “tax collectors and sinners” of Jesus’ day?

Day 4 – Fasting and Feasting

Fasting

Earnest sober prayer experience.

Feasting

How do you respond at a wedding, birthday party, or dinner party? With celebration! Jesus is here and has brought the Kingdom and good news, so how could they keep quiet?

Go back up to 2:17, another one of Jesus' purpose statements. Rewrite this in your own words.

Do you ever wonder if Jesus felt at home (comfortable) with Levi and His friends? What do you think now?

Do you think He was more joyful and empowered (if I may use that image) with the Pharisees or sinners? Can you picture Him smiling as He dined with the wild, the greedy, and the lost, satisfied that He was exactly where He was supposed to be, fulfilling His purpose in life?

Apply that to yourself. Are you fulfilling the purpose He gave you? When do you feel more yourself...truly at home and content in your activity, empowered and led by the Spirit?

Day 5 – New and Old

Sewing

What happens when you sew fresh, new cloth on seasoned, washed cloth? Find out and write it here:

Wineskins

Wine ferments, and a by-product of fermentation is gas. Gas would expand in a wineskin, so that wineskin would need to stretch with the gas. An old wineskin would have already done all of its stretching, and would burst if filled with new wine.

So why does Jesus bring up these examples? What is His point?

Day 6 – Sabbath!

Note: We will go into depth about the Sabbath next week, as the end of chapter 2 and the beginning of chapter 3 both speak about the Sabbath.

Sabbath: Background Check

Read Exodus 20:8-11. What should characterize our Sabbaths?

Describe how you might need to change your Sunday routines in order to truly rest. Really think about this!