

EQUIPPING DISCIPLES FOR KINGDOM GROWTH  
*Mark Series: Let the Gospel Tell the Gospel*

**AUTHORITY AUTHORS PRIORITY:**

*The Gospel of God Proclaims Forgiveness as Your Greatest Need*

Covenant Presbyterian Church

**MARK 2:1-17**

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**Introduction:**

*Mark 2:10* “But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins”

*Mark 2:17* And hearing *this*, Jesus said to them, “*It is* not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick; I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners.”

**Mark 2:1-13 Faith is active trust in Jesus—God’s King & Deliverer—come among us.**

*Reasons to want to get close to him:*

He speaks the word of the kingdom (2:2)

He heals infirmities (2:11)

He understands heart motives (2:8)

With him is forgiveness of sins (2:5, 10)

*Reasons to be distressed and run from him:*

He speaks the word of the kingdom (2:2)

He heals infirmities (2:11)

He understands heart motives (2:8)

With him is forgiveness of sins (2:5, 10)

**Jesus, the Son of Man, both attracts and repels** (draws and disturbs).

**Son of Man:** a title used of man as contrasted from God (Psa 8:4, Ezekiel 2:1) but in Daniel 7:13-14 the Son of Man comes on the clouds of heaven, is given dominion and glory and a kingdom, all peoples, nations, and languages serve him in everlasting dominion, his kingdom that shall not be destroyed. Jesus ultimately claims this role (Mark 14:61-62) and uses this title 80 times in the Gospels.

**He’s the author/authority;** will you bow and have him write your part into his story?

Faith is active trust in Jesus—God’s King and Deliverer—come among us: Jesus is delighted in their faith!

**Our King & Deliverer proclaims forgiveness is more foundational** than healing (See Isa 33:22, 24).  
*When you are forgiven, you get up and walk! Do you believe? Get up and walk!*

*Partake of the bread of life; feed on Christ who is your life: your Deliverer-Judgment Bearer, your Lord and Guide, your Older Brother who alone pleads your case and intercedes for you at his Father's right hand. your Healer-Sustainer, in whom you can have eternal life now and forever.*

### **Mark 2:14-17 Forgiveness fosters a fellowship of outcast, ill, and unrighteous.**

- 14 As He passed by, He saw Levi the *son* of Alphaeus sitting in the tax booth, and He said to him, "Follow Me!" And he got up and followed Him.
- 15 And it happened that He was reclining *at the table* in his house, and many tax collectors and sinners were dining with Jesus and His disciples; for there were many of them, and they were following Him.
- 16 When the scribes of the Pharisees saw that He was eating with the sinners and tax collectors, they said to His disciples, "Why is He eating and drinking with tax collectors and sinners?"
- 17 And hearing *this*, Jesus said to them, "*It is* not those who are healthy who need a physician, but those who are sick; I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners."

**Jesus is forming a fellowship of followers**, of disciples: partaking of this meal means we are among them.

Pharisees were motivated to be ritually clean, to prevent sinfulness, therefore risk averse to kingdom love. Jesus came among the unclean to cleanse them!

**Forgiveness is an active trust** in God's King and Deliverer, allowing him to author our way.

**The forgiving are the forgiven** (Matthew 6:12-14)

<sup>12</sup> **'And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.**

<sup>13</sup> *'And do not lead us into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.'*

<sup>14</sup> **"For if you forgive others for their transgressions, your heavenly Father will also forgive you.**

Apostles' Creed: *I believe in the Holy Spirit, the communion of saints, **the forgiveness of sins.***

Will you eat & drink to be enabled to rise up and walk?

Will you eat & drink to be enabled to bring neighbors through the roof to Jesus

Learning to think Jesus' way could make you dangerous—*your neighbors might not seem so hard to get along with any more.*

***The Gospel of God Proclaims Forgiveness as Your Greatest Need***