



The Gospel of Mark

Human Transformation and the Life of Discipleship



The Gospel of Mark

Session 6

The Sabbath was a gift of God to humankind—for worship, rest and renewal.

“Lord of the Sabbath” – Jesus (the Son of Man) has authority to determine Sabbath practice!



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“Jesus stresses that the time of fulfillment has arrived, and thus totally new ways of thinking and acting are in order. In our own lives, the same dynamic is at work. It will not do simply to patch some little bit of the Gospel onto our existing lifestyle and expect it all to hold together. Thankfully, the Lord offers such surpassingly great promises that the old is made obsolete. That is what Paul meant when he said, ‘If anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation’ (2Co 5:17).” (*The Lutheran Study Bible.*)



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Mark 3.1-6 Again he entered the synagogue, and a man was there with a withered hand. ² And they watched Jesus, to see whether he would heal him on the Sabbath, so that they might accuse him. ³ And he said to the man with the withered hand, "Come here." ⁴ And he said to them, "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do harm, to save life or to kill?" But they were silent. ⁵ And he looked around at them with anger, grieved at their hardness of heart, and said to the man, "Stretch out your hand." He stretched it out, and his hand was restored. ⁶ The Pharisees went out and immediately held counsel with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him.



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(vs.1-6): Conflict stories continue—and Sabbath regulations.

A man with a “withered hand.” Likely paralysis.

The Pharisees (?) watching to see if Jesus would not could!

Rabbinic law and “healing” —only if life is in danger!



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Jesus' mission—to “kill” (destroy) the works of Satan!

(v.5): Jesus “looked around” περιβλέπομαι (*periblepomai*)

Jesus' emotions—Anger ὀργή (*orgē*): “Anger” “Fury”
(wrath)



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“Grieved” συλλυπέομαι (*syllypeomai*): “To feel deep sorrow, distress”

The man contra the Pharisees—obeyed!

The result of the healing? Increased *anger* and *enmity*!



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(v.6): Enter—the Herodians. Derived from their association with the ruling family of Herod.

Idumaen (Edom) family of rulers starting with Herod the Great.

Herod the Great. King of Judea (37–4 B.C.). (Recorded in Matt. 2:1–19; Luke 1:5)



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His sons:

Herod Philip (son of Mariamne of Simon)

Husband of Herodias (4 B.C.—A.D. 34) (Recorded in Matt. 14:3; Mark 6:17)

Herod Philip (son of Cleopatra) (Recorded in Luke 3:1)



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Herod Antipas (Recorded in Matt. 14:1–12; Mark 6:14, 29; Luke 3:19; 9:7–9; 13:31; 23:6–12, 15; Acts 4:27; 13:1)

Archelaus, Herod the Ethnarch (Recorded in Matt. 2:22)

Aristobulus (son of Mariamne) (Recorded in Acts 12:1–24; 23:35)



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Herod the Great killed the children in Bethlehem

Herod Antipas killed John the Baptist (Tried Jesus)

Herod Agrippa I killed the Apostle James

Herod Agrippa II heard Paul's appeal recorded in the book of Acts



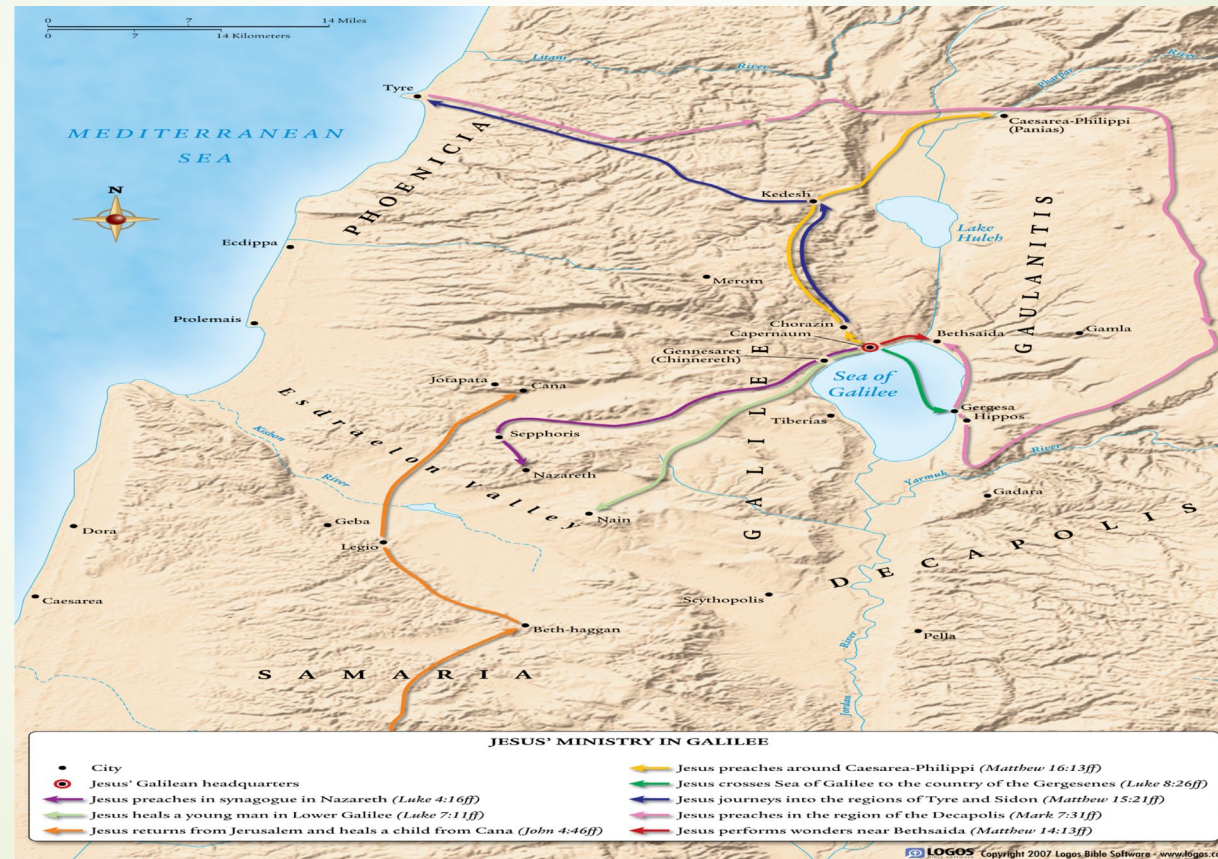
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Mark 3.7-12 Jesus withdrew with his disciples to the sea, and a great crowd followed, from Galilee and Judea ⁸ and Jerusalem and Idumea and from beyond the Jordan and from around Tyre and Sidon. When the great crowd heard all that he was doing, they came to him. ⁹ And he told his disciples to have a boat ready for him because of the crowd, lest they crush him, ¹⁰ for he had healed many, so that all who had diseases pressed around him to touch him. ¹¹ And whenever the unclean spirits saw him, they fell down before him and cried out, “You are the Son of God.” ¹² And he strictly ordered them not to make him known.

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(vs.7-12): Jesus withdraws (?)

(vs.11-12): Once again, the demonic engaged!

Knowing Jesus' identity—the *irony* the demons know the people do not!

The *futility*! The demonic can't control Jesus!



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Mark 3.13-21 And he went up on the mountain and called to him those whom he desired, and they came to him. ¹⁴ And he appointed twelve (whom he also named apostles) so that they might be with him and he might send them out to preach ¹⁵ and have authority to cast out demons. ¹⁶ He appointed the twelve: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter); ¹⁷ James the son of Zebedee and John the brother of James (to whom he gave the name Boanerges, that is, Sons of Thunder); ¹⁸ Andrew, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus, and Simon the Zealot, ¹⁹ and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

²⁰ Then he went home, and the crowd gathered again, so that they could not even eat. ²¹ And when his family heard it, they went out to seize him, for they were saying, "He is out of his mind."



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(vs.13-19): Jesus and the “Mountain.” Disciples and Apostles.

The purpose: To come to be with Jesus and to work for Jesus.

The “work”? Proclaiming and healing.



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(vs.16-19): The “Table of the Apostles” “The Twelve”

Peter is named first—James and John. (“Sons of Thunder”)

Bartholomew (Nathaniel? John 1.45)

The New Community: Zealots and Tax collectors!



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(vs.20-21): Family controversy. The “house” Peter and Andrews.

The principle of “unflattering accounts”

Jesus’ mission/recognition is increasing.





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Jesus' family wanted to “seize” Him κρατέω (*krateō*): “To hold on to” “Grab.”

Again, irony. The demons know who Jesus is, NOT His family!



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“In contrast to the Pharisees’ and Herodians’ hostility, the crowds enthusiastically press around Jesus to listen and be healed. The mixed reaction to Jesus has not changed over the years. Many still reject Him, while others desperately seek His help. He nonetheless attends to people’s physical and spiritual needs. He continues to bless those who seek Him today.”

(Lutheran Study Bible (Saint Louis: Concordia Publishing))