

Junior Sunday School Outline
Book- Mark
Chapter- Mark 2
Scripture- Mark 2:23-28

Memory verse- Hebrews 4:3, *“For we which have believed do enter into rest...”*

INTRODUCTION- Today, in the Gospel of Mark, we continue to see the works, which Jesus, the Servant of God performed during His public ministry. While our Lord Jesus lived on earth, He made the city of Capernaum the “home-base” for He and His disciples (Matthew 4:13). No other city appears to have had as many great and wonderful things done in it by Christ as Capernaum. Unfortunately, it seems that nothing Jesus said or did within Capernaum had an effect upon the hearts of its inhabitants. In fact, Jesus would later rebuke the hardened hearts of the people dwelling in Capernaum (Matthew 11:23-24). This chapter records a few of the works that Jesus did in Capernaum.

I. JESUS FORGIVES A SINFUL MAN AND HEALS A PALSIED MAN (v.1-12)

- A. The Lord Jesus forgives a palsied man of his iniquities (v.1-7)- PALSIED- “loosened; paralysis”, usually including the legs. In Capernaum, Jesus and His disciples had a house where they lived (v.1). Great crowds came to this house to see Jesus and hear Him teach and preach. Four men were concerned for their paralyzed friend and brought him to Jesus in hopes of being healed. When they could not get within the house due to the multitude of people, they tore off the roof and lowered their friend down to Jesus through the ceiling. Jesus saw the faith of this palsied man and his four friends and said, *“Son, thy sins be forgiven thee.”* This man, who was brought to Christ for healing of his paralysis was forgiven of his sins (Psalm 103:3; James 5:15-16). This represents how the things we think most important are not foremost on God’s list of most important things.
- B. The Lord Jesus heals the palsied man of his infirmity (v.8-12)- POWER- “authority” (Matthew 28:18; John 1:12). Jesus knew the wicked hearts of these scribes just as He knows the thoughts and intents of the heart of all men (John 2:24-25, 1:1,14; Hebrews 4:12). Thus, Jesus healed the man of his palsy to illustrate His power on earth to forgive sin (Psalm 25:18, 86:5). Christ has power over every spiritual iniquity and every physical infirmity.

II. JESUS DINES WITH SINFUL MEN AND ANSWERS CRITICAL MEN (v.13-28)

- A. The Lord Jesus is criticized by the Pharisees for eating with sinners (v.13-17)- LEVI- “joined”, also called Matthew, which means “a gift of God” (Matthew 9:9). Apparently, Levi (Matthew) had only recently been saved. He already knew Jesus, and when Christ said “Follow Me”, he was ready to leave his occupation to do what Jesus had called him to do. PHARISEES- “separated ones”, the strictest sect of the Jewish religion. PUBLICANS- “one who farmed the taxes to be levied from a

town or district". These publicans were Jewish men who collected taxes for the Roman empire from their fellow countrymen. It was Levi who gave a special dinner in honor of the Lord and invited all of his "publican" friends (Luke 5:29-32). The Pharisees believed that eating with sinners caused a person to become defiled before God. However, Jesus tells them that it is the sick that need the Physician (Romans 5:8; I Timothy 1:15).

B. The Lord Jesus is questioned concerning why His disciples did not fast (v.18-22)-

The Pharisees had particularly criticized Jesus for not fasting, even calling Him a "glutton and a winebibber" (Matthew 11:19; Luke 7:34). These religious men wanted Jesus to submit to and follow their customs and traditions of fasting and washing of hands among other things. When Jesus did not fit into their traditions or their ceremonial part of the Moses' law, they became critical of Him. Jesus gives them two parables (illustrations) to answer their gripes. Jesus had not come to "patch-up" the old law, nor to put the new wine of the Gospel into the old bottles of the law. Instead, Jesus came to fulfill the law and bring in a new covenant.

C. The Lord Jesus is questioned concerning why His disciples plucked corn on the Sabbath day (v.23-28)- SABBATH- "cessation of rest". The Sabbath day was to be a day of rest for men and beast each week. While Israel was commanded to do no "servile work" on the Sabbath day, they were never commanded to starve on the Sabbath day either (Exodus 31:15). Israel was still permitted to eat and serve God on the Sabbath day (Matthew 12:4-5). The Sabbath was meant to be a blessing to man, not a curse (Matthew 12:12; John 7:22-24). The Sabbath is a good picture of Jesus in that when we enter Christ by salvation, we have entered into "our Rest".

III. CONCLUSION

1. God created a day of rest for His people to relax from their work in order to spend quality time with Him.
2. This day of rest was called the Sabbath and was held upon Saturday of each week.
3. The Pharisees required everyone to rest from their work, but that did not mean they required people to spend time with the Lord.
4. The Pharisees, like many people today, forgot what the day of rest really meant.
5. Today, the Lord's day (Sunday), has been forsaken as the day of resting from our work and spend time in the Word of God through preaching and teaching.
6. Also, many people have forgotten that when we are saved, we have no further worries about the future and what it may bring. If we have entered into Christ, we are saved and have entered into our Rest.
7. Why should we worry and be afraid when we have Jesus within us?
8. We should be happy all the time since Christ be in us all the time.
9. Song, "I'm so happy and here's the reason why"