

But he went out and began to talk freely about it, and to spread the news, so that Jesus could no longer openly enter a town, but was out in desolate places, and people were coming to him from every quarter. Mark 1:45 (ESV)

MARK THE KING AND THE CROSS

Mark 1:35-45 – Jesus Changes Place With A Leper

November 4, 2018

Application

- True faith in Jesus is seen in how we obey him, not just in looking for his undeserved grace.
- No matter how disgusting we have become with sin, Jesus loves us enough to trade places.

Life Group Questions

1. In Mark 1:40-45, Jesus changed places with the leper. He was willing to become the one that was isolated from society so the leper could be accepted. Jesus did the same for us. Martin Luther called this the great exchange. Jesus took on our sin and gave us his righteousness. How does it make you feel know Jesus loves you so much he took our sin to give us his righteousness? (see 2 Corinthians 5:21; Galatians 3:13; 1 Peter 3:18)
2. The leper appeared to have faith in Jesus but ultimately revealed he just wanted healing. What was it that revealed his lack of true faith? What can we learn from this about true saving faith today? (see James 2:14-26; John 14:21; Luke 8:21)
3. Jesus rose early to be alone for times of prayer. He also took extended times of prayer before making important decisions and facing times of difficulty. What can we learn from this about the place of prayer in our life? (see Matthew 6:6; Daniel 6:10-11, 13)
4. Abba is the Aramaic word for daddy. It is the word a young child used when they extended their arms toward their father hoping to be picked up and held tight. When Paul tells us to pray using the word "Abba," what does this tell us about the way we should approach God in prayer? (See Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6; Ephesians 3:12; Psalm 42:1-2)
5. Jesus tells us to pray about everything with an expectant attitude knowing we have a good father that wants to respond to our prayers and give us good things. Knowing that should be our attitude, how does that change how you pray, when you pray, and what you ask of God? (see Matthew 7:7-11)

1. Just like Jesus, we need to carve out time with God to avoid drifting off mission and into sin.

And rising very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he departed and went out to a desolate place, and there he prayed. Mark 1:35 (ESV)

So Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, the Son can do nothing of his own accord, but only what he sees the Father doing. For whatever the Father does, that the Son does likewise. John 5:19 (ESV)

Practical Tips to Carve Out Time With God like Jesus.

1. Have a place in your life that avoids distractions, like electronics.
2. If you are looking for alone time, put your phone away.
3. Develop the discipline of getting up early.
4. Before making important decisions or facing stressful situations, get time alone to pray.

And Simon and those who were with him searched for him, and they found him and said to him, "Everyone is looking for you." And he said to them, "Let us go on to the next towns, that I may preach there also, for that is why I came out." And he went throughout all Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and casting out demons. Mark 1:36–39 (ESV)

2. Jesus healed lepers.

And a leper came to him, imploring him, and kneeling said to him, "If you will, you can make me clean." Mark 1:40 (ESV)

And all the crowd sought to touch him, for power came out from him and healed them all. Luke 6:19 (ESV)

1. How does leprosy effect people medically?

2. How does leprosy effect people socially?

"The leprous person who has the disease shall wear torn clothes and let the hair of his head hang loose, and he shall cover his upper lip and cry out, 'Unclean, unclean.' He shall remain unclean as long as he has the disease. He is unclean. He shall live alone. His dwelling shall be outside the camp." Leviticus 13:45–46 (ESV)

...came to him, imploring him, and kneeling said to him, "If you will, you can make me clean.

Moved with pity, he stretched out his hand and touched him and said to him, "I will; be clean." And immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. And Jesus sternly charged him and sent him away at once, and said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone, but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, for a proof to them." Mark 1:41–44 (ESV)

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