

A Walk through Malk through

God of MIRACLES

August 15 -September 19





GOD OF MIRACLES

A STUDY

through Mark

August 15 - September 19

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God of Miracles

A preacher was once asked for an airtight argument for Christianity, to which he replied, "What if God didn't give us an airtight argument, what if He gave us an airtight person?"

With all my heart I believe that Jesus is the evidence of God. I believe that Jesus is the hope that our hearts long for. I believe that if we encounter Jesus we will encounter God.

This new series is an invitation for us to encounter Jesus. Mark is a fast-paced book that focuses on the power of Jesus. It is an invitation to experience His power over sin, sickness, the law, demons, death, nature, and doubt. May the power of Jesus be revealed to you and His presence be made manifest in your life.

In Him,

Pastor TJ



GOD OF MIRACLES

Lord of Sin

Mark 2:1-12

August 15



Lord of Sin

Mark 2:1-12

1 And when he returned to Capernaum after some days, it was reported that he was at home. 2 And many were gathered together, so that there was no more room, not even at the door. And he was preaching the word to them. 3 And they came, bringing to him a paralytic carried by four men. 4 And when they could not get near him because of the crowd, they removed the roof above him, and when they had made an opening, they let down the bed on which the paralytic lay. 5 And when Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Son, your sins are forgiven."

6 Now some of the scribes were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, 7 "Why does this man speak like that? He is blaspheming! Who can forgive sins but God alone?" 8 And immediately Jesus, perceiving in his spirit that they thus questioned within themselves, said to them, "Why do you question these things in your hearts? 9 Which is easier, to say to the paralytic, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Rise, take up your bed and walk'? 10 But that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he said to the paralytic— 11 "I say to you, rise, pick up your bed, and go home." 12 And he rose and immediately picked up his bed and went out before them all, so that they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"

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# **Lord of Sin**

When Jesus healed the paralytic in Mark 2 that was good news. What a mighty Savior we serve who has power over illness. When Jesus looked to the paralytic and said, "Your sins are forgiven," that was GREAT news. What good is it if our body is healed only to eventually wear out, die, and face judgment for our sins?

Jesus' power over illness was a declaration of Jesus' power over sin. For the Jews who were present, they understand that Jesus was claiming to BE GOD! "Who can forgive sins but God alone?" The answer is no one. What we discover in this miracle in Mark is that God Himself takes on flesh to defeat sin and its effect and for that we are eternally grateful.

Savoring the Savior with you,

Pastor TJ



Son, your sins are forgiven

Please scan the QR code for some background information on the Gospel of Mark and an introduction to Mark 1:1-12.



- 1. The paralytic man was so desperate for the miracle in his life that his friends removed the rooftop in the house to get him in. Have you ever been desperate like the paralytic man for the miracle in your life? Share the story with the group.
- 2. Read verses 3 & 4. Why do you think there were crowds following Jesus?
- 3. What is the difference between the attitude of the crowd and the disciples of Jesus?
- 4. Learning about the attitudes of the crowd from today's study introduction, what are the ways Christians can have the same attitudes in our lives?



Son, your sins are forgiven

- 5. Read verse 5, Hebrews 11:6, and James 2:17. What does it mean to have faith in God?
- 6. How did the faith of the paralytic and his friends in Jesus impact his healing?
- 7. How does it look for you today to have faith in something and act on it?
- 8. In Jewish society, a disease was a sign of a curse from God. How do we as New Testament believers view sickness now?
- 9. Why do you think Jesus said, "Your sins are forgiven" instead of "You are healed"? Which is the greater miracle here?
- 10. Do you have examples from your own life of being sick and how God responded to your prayer when you asked for healing?
- 11. Read verses 8 & 9. As the scribes questioned Jesus' authority, have you too ever questioned God's authority over any areas of your life? Share with the group how you were able to submit to God's authority in that situation.



Son, your sins are forgiven

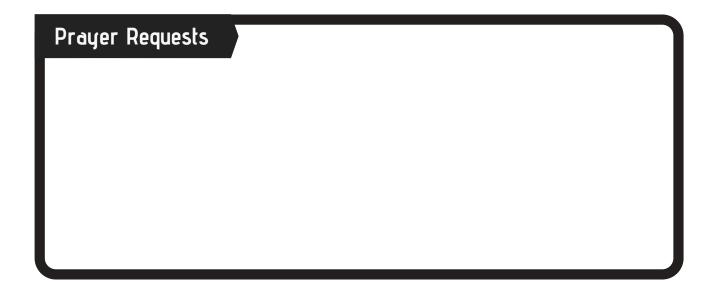
- 12. Read verses 10 & 11, as well as Mark 8:38, 13:26, 14:62 and Daniel 7:13-14. What was Jesus teaching us about Himself, and our relationship to Him, when He called Himself the Son of Man?
- 13. Read verse 12 and John 9:1-3. What is the result of a paralytic man being healed? Can a person who is not getting healed still bring glory to God?
- 14. Do you know of someone in your community who is a "physical or spiritual paralytic"? What can you do to help to bring the person to Jesus?
- 15. Mark tells the Gospel in stories. If you have time this week, try to write a story about the miracles in your life in a way that could be used in your Gospel conversations with others.



# Prayer & Praise

# Son, your sins are forgiven

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.



Praise Reports



# GOD OF MIRACLES

Lord of Sabbath

Mark 2:23-3:6

August 22



# **Lord of Sabbath**

### Mark 2:23 - 3:6

2: 23 One Sabbath he was going through the grainfields, and as they made their way, his disciples began to pluck heads of grain. 24 And the Pharisees were saying to him, "Look, why are they doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" 25 And he said to them, "Have you never read what David did, when he was in need and was hungry, he and those who were with him: 26 how he entered the house of God, in the time of Abiathar the high priest, and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and also gave it to those who were with him?" 27 And he said to them, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. 28 So the Son of Man is lord even of the Sabbath."

3: 1 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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Lord of Sabbath

The Sabbath. It's a day we come together to worship our risen Savior. It's a day of rest. It's a day the LORD blessed and made holy. From Old Testament times to the present day, churches have had various opinions on how to Sabbath. Should one work? If so, how much work is acceptable? Which type of work is not acceptable? The Jews, in an attempt to keep the Sabbath, created a long list of dos and don'ts for Sabbath. We too typically have our rules for Sabbath. But Sabbath isn't so much about an event as it is a person.

When Jesus came He called Himself LORD of the Sabbath. He broke most of the rules rabbis created for Sabbath. He healed on the Sabbath. He "worked" (spitting in dirt, picking grain to eat) on the Sabbath. What do we make of Jesus' miracle on the Sabbath? What is He teaching us about the Sabbath, about Himself, about our own Sabbath rest? Join us Sunday as we spend time in Mark 3:1-6.

Looking to the LORD of the Sabbath with you,

Pastor TJ



The Sabbath was made for man

Please scan the QR code for an introduction to Mark 2:23 - 3:6.



- 1. What is your idea of rest during the week?
- 2. Read Exodus 31:12-17 & Deuteronomy 5:12-15. What are the main requirements of the Sabbath and the punishment for disobeying the Sabbath in the OT?
- 3. What was the role of the Sabbath in the lives of Israelites and what fulfilled meaning does Jesus bring to Sabbath to us?
- 4. Read Mark 2:27. How does Jesus' statement contradict the Jewish view of the Sabbath?



The Sabbath was made for man

- 5. Read Mark 2:28. What do those verses claim about Jesus?
- 6. Read Genesis 2:1-3. How does it look for you as a Christian to set aside time for rest during the week? What are some practical things that worked for you to keep the day holy or set apart for the Lord?
- 7. Read Mark 3:4. In what ways are we, like the Pharisees, tempted to worship the rules of religion and not the God that everything is pointing toward?
- 8. As you observe the actions and attitudes of the Pharisees and Jesus what do they teach you about the LORD of the Sabbath?
- 9. What is "hardness of heart"? Give examples that are true to life.
- 10. Read Mark 3:6. As we see how much He was willing to suffer for our healing, how does this impact our relationship with Him?
- 11. Take some time to discuss the holy life of Jesus and what impact that makes on us now and in eternity.



The Sabbath was made for man

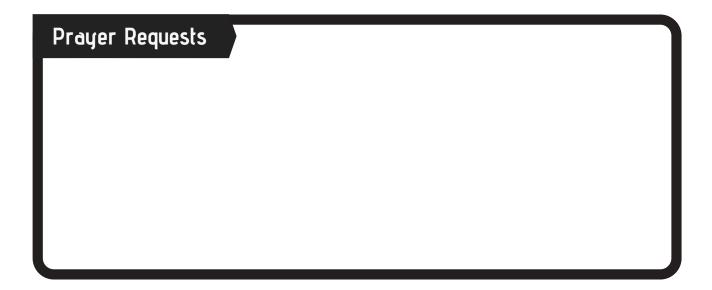
- 12. As the Sabbath is meant for joy and goodness, take some time to discuss how Jesus has brought you joy and goodness.
- 13. As the Sabbath is meant to preserve life, discuss how your life has been transformed by Jesus.
- 14. If Jesus is truly the Lord of the Sabbath for you, think about the ways you can recognize His authority over the weekly rest in your life. Share with the group and pray for each other on the things that the Holy Spirit is challenging you today regarding the weekly rest.



Prayer & Praise

The Sabbath was made for man

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.



Praise Reports	



GOD OF MIRACLES

Lord of Demons

Mark 5:1-20

August 29



Lord of Demons

Mark 5:1-20

1 They came to the other side of the sea, to the country of the Gerasenes. 2 And when Jesus had stepped out of the boat, immediately there met him out of the tombs a man with an unclean spirit. 3 He lived among the tombs. And no one could bind him anymore, not even with a chain, 4 for he had often been bound with shackles and chains, but he wrenched the chains apart, and he broke the shackles in pieces. No one had the strength to subdue him. 5 Night and day among the tombs and on the mountains he was always crying out and cutting himself with stones. 6 And when he saw Jesus from afar, he ran and fell down before him. 7 And crying out with a loud voice, he said, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I adjure you by God, do not torment me." 8 For he was saying to him, "Come out of the man, you unclean spirit!" 9 And Jesus asked him, "What is your name?" He replied, "My name is Legion, for we are many." 10 And he begged him earnestly not to send them out of the country. 11 Now a great herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, 12 and they begged him, saying, "Send us to the pigs; let us enter them." 13 So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the sea.

14 The herdsmen fled and told it in the city and in the country. And people came to see what it was that had happened. 15 And they came to Jesus and saw the demon-possessed man, the one who had had the legion, sitting there, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. 16 And those who had seen it described to them what had happened to the demon-possessed man and to the pigs. 17 And they began to beg Jesus to depart from their region. 18 As he was getting into the boat, the man who had been possessed with demons begged him that he might be with him. 19 And he did not permit him but said to him, "Go home to your friends and tell them how much the Lord has done for you, and how he has had mercy on you." 20 And he went away and began to proclaim in the Decapolis how much Jesus had done for him, and everyone marveled.

Lord of Demons

Depending on what region of the world you call home you may or may not REALLY believe in demons. Any Christian, who holds the Bible to be God's truth given to us, theoretically believes in demons. But there are places in the world where the works of Satan are so overt that confrontations with demons are a daily reality, therefore their understanding of demons is not theoretical but practical.

It's a fearful thing to consider a realm of beings with great power invading our world to torment and taunt humans. The Bible describes our interaction with demonic forces as war and wrestling. How do you fight that which you don't see? How do you defeat that which is greater than you? You take refuge under the arms of Jesus, the LORD over demons.

Join us Sunday as we work our way through Mark 5.

Taking refuge with you,

Pastor TJ



Son of the Most High God

Please scan the QR code for an introduction to Mark 5:1-20.



- 1. What are some dark places in Beijing that could possibly be places where demons reside or have a stronghold?
- 2. Read Mark 5:3-5. Describe the demoniac's character, relationships, actions and attitude.
- 3. In what ways do we see demons acting this way today toward humans and how does that inform how we respond to these situations?
- 4. What are the dark areas in our city, workplaces, homes, people' hearts, that you see Jesus is not afraid to go?
- 5. Read Mark 5:4 and Mark 5:9. What does it tell us about the power of that specific unclean spirit?



Son of the Most High God

- 6. Read Mark 5:6-13. What was the unclean spirit's reaction towards Jesus?
- 7. When was the last time you felt outnumbered by the enemy, such as sin, depression, or circumstances? Read Mark 5:6-7. How does this verse encourage you in times of oppression?
- 8. Read Mark 5:14-17. Why do you think the townsmen begged Jesus to depart from their region?
- 9. Compare the reactions of the townsmen, demons and demoniac. What do you learn about how different people would respond to miracles of God?
- 10. What are the obstacles that could keep people away from responding in worship to Jesus in our modern times, in our city, and in the life of your friends in Beijing?
- 11. Read Mark 5:18-20. What are the characteristics of the man after he was healed? Compare it with the answers from question 2.
- 12. Do you have a similar story of how Jesus has changed your life by liberating you from the bondage of darkness?



Son of the Most High God

Going Deeper

- 13. According to the OT, what makes a person unclean?
- 14. Read Matthew 15:19-20a and Galatians 5:19-25. What are the examples of unclean dwellings in people' hearts? What are the ways people can keep their hearts clean?
- 15. What are some areas you are struggling with to keep your heart clean?
- 16. Finish the study with praying for our city and people in the city not to be as townsmen but to respond to Jesus when they encounter Him. Pray as a group about it during the week.



Prayer & Praise

Son of the Most High God

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

Prayer Requests	

Praise Reports	



GOD OF MIRACLES

Lord of Death

Mark 5:21-43

September 5



Lord of Death

Mark 5:21-43

21 And when Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered about him, and he was beside the sea. 22 Then came one of the rulers of the synagogue, Jairus by name, and seeing him, he fell at his feet 23 and implored him earnestly, saying, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." 24 And he went with him.

And a great crowd followed him and thronged about him. 25 And there was a woman who had had a discharge of blood for twelve years, 26 and who had suffered much under many physicians, and had spent all that she had, and was no better but rather grew worse. 27 She had heard the reports about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his garment. 28 For she said, "If I touch even his garments, I will be made well." 29 And immediately the flow of blood dried up, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. 30 And Jesus, perceiving in himself that power had gone out from him, immediately turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my garments?" 31 And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing around you, and yet you say, 'Who touched me?" 32 And he looked around to see who had done it. 33 But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling and fell down before him and told him the whole truth. 34 And he said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

35 While he was still speaking, there came from the ruler's house some who said, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the Teacher any further?" 36 But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the ruler of the synagogue, "Do not fear, only believe." 37 And he allowed no one to follow him except Peter and James and John the brother of James. 38 They came to the house of the ruler of the synagogue, and Jesus saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. 39 And when he had entered, he said to them, "Why are you making a commotion and weeping? The child is not dead but sleeping." 40 And they laughed at him. But he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. 41 Taking her by the hand he said to her, "Talitha cumi," which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise." 42 And immediately the girl got up and began walking (for she was twelve years of age), and they were immediately overcome with amazement. 43 And he strictly charged them that no one should know this, and told them to give her something to eat.

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Lord of Death

Talitha cumi. These are the words Jesus spoke to a twelve year old girl as she lay lifeless on a bed in her parents' home. Friends had already gathered to mourn. Mom and dad were overcome with grief. Hope was deferred. If only Jesus had arrived a bit sooner. If only the dad had left to find Jesus a bit earlier. If only this girl could have held on a bit longer.

But with Jesus, not even death gets the final say. Hope was deferred, not destroyed. For with those two words, Talitha cumi, which means, "Little girl, I say to you, arise," death was reversed and hope revived. The Gospel of Mark wants you to know that Jesus is LORD of death itself. And for all those who put their trust in Jesus, though you die, yet shall you live. One day Jesus will say to all those who are His, "little girl, little boy, I say to you, arise."

Come LORD Jesus,

Pastor TJ



Talitha cumi

Please scan the QR code for an introduction to Mark 5:21-43.



- 1. On a scale of a mustard seed, lemon seed, avocado seed or mango seed, which would you compare your faith to in the current season?
- 2. Read Mark 5:22-23, Mark 5:25-28, and Mark 5:38-40. Compare the characteristics of the faith of all the groups of people in those stories.
- 3. What is Jesus' response to the imperfection of our faith?
- 4. If you think about the imperfection of your faith, in which area of your life would you would like to trust Jesus more?



Talitha cumi

- 5. Share with the group ways in which Jesus has been personal to you.
- 6. Read Mark 5:30. Jesus desires more then just giving a healing to you, He desires a relationship with you. Knowing that Jesus desires a relationship with us, how does this change your view on what Jesus requires from our faith?
- 7. Read Mark 5:24, 30 and Mark 5:25. What does it look like to be patient in your faith journey?
- 8. Have you been waiting on something, and you feel Jesus has been delaying it? How do stories of faith from Mark 5 encourage you in the waiting process?
- 9. Read Mark 5:27 and Mark 5:35-36. What does it look like to be persistent in your faith?
- 10. Share a testimony from your own life about being persistent in prayer.
- 11. Read Mark 5:25-29 and Mark 5:41-42. How do those verses teach us to pray? What are the other verses in the Bible that encourage you in your prayers?



Talitha cumi

- 12. Read Mark 5:32-34. After the woman's healing, why did Jesus say: "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."?
- 13. How does the miracle of the little girl help prepare us for death?
- 14. Think about the situation in your life that is in "spiritual death" and needs a miracle. Share with the group and finish the study praying with each other and asking God to give you faith in those areas.



Prayer & Praise

Talitha cumi

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

Prayer Requests	

Praise Reports		



GOD OF MIRACLES

Lord of Land and Sea

> Mark 6:45-52

September 12



Lord of Land and Sea

Mark 6:45-52

45 Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. 46 And after he had taken leave of them, he went up on the mountain to pray. 47 And when evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. 48 And he saw that they were making headway painfully, for the wind was against them. And about the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. He meant to pass by them, 49 but when they saw him walking on the sea they thought it was a ghost, and cried out, 50 for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." 51 And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, 52 for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

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# Lord of Land and Sea

This summer we have had our fair share of Beijing storms. Since our family lives rather high up in an apartment that overlooks a stretch of land not obscured by buildings, I have been able to watch some of those storms roll across the city. Dark clouds speeding on their way. Trees bending, debris flying, in a futile effort to resist the wind. Rain pelting the panes of windows. In the words of Queen, "Thunderbolt and lightning, very, very frightening."

If storms on land are...frightening, how does one describe a storm whist one is at sea? There is no shelter to take refuge in, no foundation to anchor to, only the endless, merciless sea seeking to bury you in its depths. What hope has a sailor when a storm refuses to relent, for who can command the wind, waves, and water? According to Job, only one has the power to say, "here shall your proud waves be stayed." Therefore, we should take note when Jesus, walking on water in the midst of a storm, says to His disciples, "Take heart; it is I, do not be afraid" and IMMEDIATELY the storm ceased. Join us Sunday as we look at the LORD of Land and Sea.

Utterly astounded with you,

Pastor TJ



Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid

Please scan the QR code for an introduction to Mark 6:45-52.



- 1. Look at the famous painting "Calming the Storm" by Rembrandt (in the Introduction to Mark 6:45-52). What can you say about the storm and disciples in the boat? If you have ever been in a storm before, how can that experience help you to understand the disciples' situation?
- 2. Read Mark 6:34 and Ezekiel 34:10-16. Who is Jesus in those verses?
- 3. Read Psalm 23. Describe the main characteristics of God as our good Shepherd. Keep in mind that we will be comparing this psalm with verses from today's study on the gospel of Mark.



Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid

- 4. Read Mark 6:37 and 42 and Psalm 23:1. What does it look like for Jesus to satisfy people in need? What are some common needs people have today and how has Jesus provided for your needs in the past?
- 5. Read Mark 6:31 and 39, Mark 6:34 and 51, and Psalm 23:2. In what way does Jesus lead people into peaceful places of rest? Share some stories from your life about how God has given you rest or restored your soul recently.
- 6. Read Mark 6:45-46 and Psalm 23:3. How did Jesus lead the disciples (and us today) in paths of righteousness?
- 7. Read Mark 6:48 and 50 and Psalm 23:4. What "valleys of the shadow of death" did the disciples face (immediately, shortly after, and in the distant future)? What are the valleys you are dealing with now?
- 8. Read Mark 6:48 and 51 and Psalms 23:4b-6. What are God's promises to His children when they are walking in the darkest times of their lives and how have you experienced those promise come true?
- 9. Read Mark 6:45. What role did prayer play in Jesus' life during difficult situations and what role has/should it play in our life during similar times of difficulty?



Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid

- 10. Read Mark 6:49-50. Compare the disciples' response to the storm to how you respond when you go through a storm of life.
- 11. Read Mark 6:50 and Exodus 3:14. Pay attention to how Jesus identified Himself. What does it say about who Jesus is?
- 12. When you experience the storms of life, in what ways can you focus on the divine nature of Jesus and why should that act of recognition give you peace?
- 13. If there are any stormy/crisis situations in your life right now, please share with the group and pray together for God to calm the storm.



# Prayer & Praise

# Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

| Prayer Requests |  |
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| Praise Reports |  |
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# GOD OF MIRACLES

Lord of Doubt

Mark 9:14-29

September 19



# **Lord of Doubt**

### Mark 9:14-29

14 And when they came to the disciples, they saw a great crowd around them, and scribes arguing with them. 15 And immediately all the crowd, when they saw him, were greatly amazed and ran up to him and greeted him. 16 And he asked them, "What are you arguing about with them?" 17 And someone from the crowd answered him, "Teacher, I brought my son to you, for he has a spirit that makes him mute. 18 And whenever it seizes him, it throws him down, and he foams and grinds his teeth and becomes rigid. So I asked your disciples to cast it out, and they were not able." 19 And he answered them, "O faithless generation, how long am I to be with you? How long am I to bear with you? Bring him to me." 20 And they brought the boy to him. And when the spirit saw him, immediately it convulsed the boy, and he fell on the ground and rolled about, foaming at the mouth. 21 And Jesus asked his father, "How long has this been happening to him?" And he said, "From childhood. 22 And it has often cast him into fire and into water, to destroy him. But if you can do anything, have compassion on us and help us." 23 And Jesus said to him, "'If you can'! All things are possible for one who believes." 24 Immediately the father of the child cried out and said, "I believe; help my unbelief!" 25 And when Jesus saw that a crowd came running together, he rebuked the unclean spirit, saying to it, "You mute and deaf spirit, I command you, come out of him and never enter him again." 26 And after crying out and convulsing him terribly, it came out, and the boy was like a corpse, so that most of them said, "He is dead." 27 But Jesus took him by the hand and lifted him up, and he arose. 28 And when he had entered the house, his disciples asked him privately, "Why could we not cast it out?" 29 And he said to them, "This kind cannot be driven out by anything but prayer."

# **Lord of Doubt**

As we end our series in Mark we look at how Jesus relates to people who struggle with doubt. We will first encounter a father whose son is suffering from demonic possession. The father has brought the son to Jesus, so we can see that he has some type of faith or hope that Jesus would/could heal. But as you listen to the man you can hear faith mingled with fear...IF you can heal him. Jesus hones in on this word, "IF...what do you mean IF I can heal!?" To this the man speaks words that we all resonate with, "I believe, help my unbelief."

Secondly, we encounter the disciples who are struggling with a doubt of their own. As Jesus was on the mountain they were trying, rather unsuccessfully, to cast out the demon from this son. Jesus speaks of their efforts as, "faithless," aka...full of doubt. Just as we can relate to the first man's belief/unbelief, so too we can relate with the disciples' faith/faithlessness.

So what does Jesus do with such people? Does He write us off? Does He start over? Does He ignore our requests for help? Does He gather a new group of followers who will have more faith? Or does He realize that it is precisely because of our lack of faith that He has come, to give us faith. Does He speak to us, "All things are possible for one who believes?"

Believing through my doubts with you,

Pastor TJ



If you can?

Please scan the QR code for an introduction to Mark 9:14-29.



- 1. What are the common disbeliefs about Jesus that people have in the world?
- 2. Read Mark 9:2-13. What was the claim about Jesus that God the Father revealed to the disciples in those verses? What were the disciples' responses to the claim?
- 3. What does the claim of Jesus being the Son of God mean to you?
- 4. From our text, identify the different people/groups of people who disbelieved in Jesus. Describe the basis of their disbelief.



If you can?

- 5. Based on the text and what you've learned from Sunday's sermon, what are the main reasons people disbelieve Jesus?
- 6. Have you ever had doubt? What were the causes of that doubt?
- 7. Read Mark 9:19, Mark 8:11-12. What was Jesus' reaction to people's disbelief? Why?
- 8. Read Mark 9:21-24. How did the father of the boy overcome his disbelief? How does this encourage you to overcome your disbelief?
- 9. What are the areas of your life where you lack or have little faith?
- 10. Read Mark 9:28-29. Discuss the role of prayer in seasons of disbelief.
- 11. What are the ways you are relying on yourself as disciples did instead of relying on God?
- 12. What are some other ways of overcoming disbelief that were not mentioned in this passage?
- 13. Finish the study by praying and confessing disbelief and asking Jesus to give you faith.



# Prayer & Praise

If you can?

End your time together by reflecting on the goodness of God and praying for one another.

| Prayer Requests |  |
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| Praise Reports |  |
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