

Elementary

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8. A synagogue was a place of worship like a church. How did people react to Jesus teaching and what was different about the way He taught? vv. 21-22

MARK 1:21-28 The Authority of Jesus

- 9. Read verses 23-26. What problem did the man in the synagogue have? What did Jesus do?
- 10. Read verses 27-28. What did the people say about Jesus's authority and how did they react? How does it make you feel to know that Jesus has power over evil spirits?

## BELIEVE THE TRUTH

As Jesus begins His ministry in Mark, people are immediately struck by his Authority. Until Jesus came the religious teachers could only give a glimpse of the Goodness of God. However Jesus had real, true authority because He was the Son of God in the flesh, sent to save us. Jesus said: "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6. If we want to know God we must admit that we are sinners in need of God's grace. As we follow Him, we become His disciples.

## PRAY THE TRUTH

Lord Jesus, thank You for coming to earth, for loving me, and for the gift of your Word — the Bible. I want to know You more and more. Help me to understand your true authority in my life and all the powerful truths You want to teach me through these lessons. Amen.

## WALK IN TRUTH

How does (or should) 'the authority of Jesus' shape your life?

p.2

## Mark 1:1-28 (NLT)

1 This is the Good News about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God. It began 2 just as the prophet Isaiah had written: "Look, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, and he will prepare your way. 3 He is a voice shouting in the wilderness, 'Prepare the way for the Lord's coming! Clear the road for him!" 4 This messenger was John the Baptist. He was in the wilderness and preached that people should be baptized to show that they had repented of their sins and turned to God to be forgiven. 5 All of Judea, including all the people of Jerusalem, went out to see and hear John. And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River. 6 His clothes were woven from coarse camel hair, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. For food he ate locusts and wild honey. 7 John announced: "Someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I'm not even worthy to stoop down like a slave and untie the straps of his sandals. 8 I baptize you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit!"

9 One day Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and John baptized him in the Jordan River. 10 As Jesus came up out of the water, he saw the heavens splitting apart and the Holy Spirit descending on him like a dove. 11 And a voice from heaven said, "You are my dearly loved Son, and you bring me great joy."

12 The Spirit then compelled Jesus to go into the wilderness, 13 where he was tempted by Satan for forty days. He was out among the wild animals, and angels took care of him. 14 Later on, after John was arrested, Jesus went into Galilee, where he preached God's Good News. 15 "The time promised by God has come at last!" he announced. "The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!"

16 One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. 17 Jesus called out to them, "Come, follow me, and I will show you how to fish for people!" 18 And they left their nets at once and followed him. 19 A little farther up the shore Jesus saw Zebedee's sons, James and John, in a boat repairing their nets. 20 He called them at once, and they also followed him, leaving their father, Zebedee, in the boat with the hired men.

21 Jesus and his companions went to the town of Capernaum. When the Sabbath day came, he went into the synagogue and began to teach. 22 The people were amazed at his teaching, for he taught with real authority-quite unlike the teachers of religious law. 23 Suddenly, a man in the synagogue who was possessed by an evil spirit cried out, 24 "Why are you interfering with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are-the Holy One of God!" 25 But Jesus reprimanded him. "Be quiet! Come out of the man," he ordered. 26 At that, the evil spirit screamed, threw the man into a convulsion, and then came out of him. 27 Amazement gripped the audience, and they began to discuss what had happened. "What sort of new teaching is this?" they asked excitedly. "It has such authority! Even evil spirits obey his orders!" 28 The news about Jesus spread quickly throughout the entire region of Galilee.

**Confess:** openly admit wrongdoing to God; ask for forgiveness; make changes so it doesn't keep happening.

Baptism: the use of water in a ceremony to announce that one has received Jesus Christ as their Savior.

Satan: God's enemy; opponent of those who follow God; powerful angel who rebelled against God and was cast out of heaven; tempts people to sin.

Disciple: "student"; a learner. Disciples of Jesus Christ trust, believe and follow His Words and example. **Power**: Jesus has absolute authority and power over: Time; Creation; Death; Future; Truth.

**Truth**: God's Word is absolute truth. It comes from God and can be trusted; genuine; honest; reliable; Jesus is called the Truth.

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