

# Into the Life of Jesus

*a study in the gospel of Mark*  
study #4

## Review last weeks' verses: Mark 1:16-20

Briefly skim the four verses covered last week, where Jesus calls 4 fishermen to be his first disciples.

- What traits do you think Jesus sees in you that he can use to build his kingdom?

## Digging into Mark 1:21-32

Read these two sections aloud. If possible, read a couple of different versions.

- Do you notice any progression in the three different events that occurred as Jesus formally begins his ministry? How would you distinguish these three events, and how might they be related?

Jesus astonishes the people with His authority.

- What do you think it was about Jesus' authority that astounded the people? (what he said, how he said it, or both!?)
- When someone makes a bold claim, what kind of proof do you need before you will take them at their word?

## Jesus' Words and Deeds

- Why does Jesus immediately follow up his words with miracles? Is there a relationship between his teaching and his miracles?
- Have you ever witnessed a miraculous healing or had an amazing answer to prayer?
  - How did it impact your faith in Jesus?

Some atheists – and sometimes us as well – say the only way they would believe in God would be if he wrote his name in the sky or if they could see an amputated limb regrow.

- What role have "miracles" played in our faith?
- Do miracles always translate into faith? Why or why not? What factors influence how we translate or interpret God's dramatic actions in our lives?

Simon's mother's response to being healed is to get up right away and serve Jesus and others.

- How is God inviting us to respond to His work in our lives?

**PRAY:** for one another – for faith to honor and trust Jesus' authority in our lives.