The Beginning of the Gospel

Russ Bowman · Mark 1:1–45 · Series: **God's Desire for Man**

INTRODUCTION

- It is sometimes overlooked the reality that the gospel message is pretty simple.
- What you're going to find in the Bible is you're going to find God's effort to fix our mistakes.
- Repent and believe in the good news. Now, that's the fundamental message of the gospel.

1 Jesus Was Obedient and Pleased His Father

Mark 1:9–13; Matthew 3:15; John 14:15

- Jesus was obedient to God even when he did not derive benefit from what God told him to do.
- His entire life was characterized by the fact that he did what God told him to do.
- The magic formula is I came down from heaven to do the will of my Father.
- It's a whole lot easier to beg for mercy than it is to get up every day and live a disciplined life and do what God tells us to do.
- There is no acceptable service to God unless we are obedient people.
- If you love me, Jesus said in John 14, keep my commandments.

2 God Calls Us to Spiritual Service

Mark 1:16–20; Romans 12:3–8; 1 Corinthians 12

- Jesus said to them, Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men. And immediately they left their nets and followed him.
- I want you to learn that God calls us to spiritual service. And he calls all of us to spiritual service.
- All of us bring something to the gospel. Nobody is exempted.
- We being many are one body in Christ, and individually we're members of one another, having then gifts differing according to the grace that's given to us.
- What can you do to help the person sitting next to you be just like Jesus?
- God calls Christians to service to other Christians so that every one of us can be like Jesus Christ.

3 Jesus' Power and Authority Transcends This World

Mark 1:21–34; Matthew 28:18; Philippians 3

- He taught them as one having authority and not as the scribes.
- We're not just serving God for what we get out of it in this life. We are serving God with a view towards the next life.
- When Jesus told a demon, you come out, the demon came out because he didn't have any choice. Because God has power.
- All authority is given to me in heaven and on earth.

- Everything meaningful in this life that looks forward to the next is possible because Jesus' authority transcends this world.

4 Jesus Has What We Need

Mark 1:32–45

- People came to Jesus for what he could give them.
- Jesus has what we need. And we come to Jesus because of what Jesus can give us.
- Let us go into the next towns that I may preach there also, because for this purpose I have come forth.
- He can give you forgiveness for your sins. I don't care what you've done.
- I can prepare for it because death is not permanent. Jesus has what I need. He can give me eternal life.

> THE CHALLENGE
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> **Are you coming to him? Are you repenting? Are you obeying? Are you giving yourself and your service to his people and to his kingdom?**

MY NOTES