

The Gospel of Mark

Scripture: Mark 3:1-6

Also: Mark 10:45; 12:29-31; Luke 13:14; Matthew 11:28-30; 23:4

Questions

1. What has challenged you, changed you or confused you from this week's sermon or the Scriptures in it?
 2. Most people suggest that there are a few general responses people have when it comes to conflict:
 - When you have conflict, do you fight, flight, or freeze?
 - Do you tend to lean into conflict (address something head on), or do you try to avoid it?
 - What are some pros and cons with each approach?
 3. Read Mark 3:1-6. This passage concludes the "conflict" section of Mark, where Jesus & the Jewish leaders repeatedly clash. The Jewish leaders would institute laws on top of the laws, trying to make a protective hedge or boundary that kept one a safer distance from the actual biblical laws, in order to help people not break the actual Biblical laws.
 - What are some ways that we do that today? (This isn't entirely bad if handled biblically.) For instance, in order to avoid the sin of gluttony, one may have a personal conviction against going to al-you-can-eat buffets.
 - What makes the difference between these kinds of convictions being good/helpful vs. them being bad/harmful? (Someone saying that NO ONE can go to an all-you-can-eat buffet - taking a personal conviction and making it universal.)
 4. How can the heart of Jesus, seen in Matthew 11:28-30, "Come to me, I will give you rest", guide us when it comes to making rules on top of the rules?
 5. Read Mark 12:29-31. How do we replace rule following in our lives with (instead) loving God with all of our being?
 6. Which approach to following God (rule following vs. loving God) is:
 - Has a feel of freedom and life about it?
 - Has a feel of restrictiveness about it?
 - Do people (outside the faith) associate with Christianity? Why?
 7. How does trust, surrender, and worship provide an antidote for rule-following?
- **We concluded the service with Communion. What are some other ways you can express your trust in/surrender to/worship of Jesus? List as many as you want, then pick one (or more) and do it (them)!**