

**SERIES TITLE:** Servant King

**PART THREE:** PURSUING

**TEXT:** MARK 2:13-3:35

### **INTRODUCTION TO STUDY**

The gospel of Mark portrays Jesus as a Servant on the move. Using the word “immediately” over 40 times, he shows Jesus ministering. Obedient to the Father’s will, Jesus preaches the good news, heals the sick, teaches his followers, and performs miracles. All the while, he heads toward his sacrificial death on the cross. Mark 10:45 sums up his mission: “For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.” Mark’s gospel reveals Jesus to be the perfect Servant and the perfect Sacrifice. Those who receive him as the good news are empowered to serve in his name.

### **CONTEXT OF SCRIPTURE**

Jesus continues healing and teaching, attracting the interest of the Pharisees. As they are convinced that Jesus must be eliminated, Jesus appoints twelve apostles to expand his ministry throughout Galilee. His disciples begin to see what it means to follow Jesus.

### **FOCUS QUESTION**

If you were to ask people in your neighborhood, school or workplace what it meant to follow Jesus, what do you think they would say?

### **EXAMINATION**

2:13-17 What was wrong with the Pharisees attitude?

2:18-22 How does Jesus’ respond to the question of why his disciples weren’t fasting?

2:23-27 By using the example of David, what is Jesus saying about himself?

What does it mean for Jesus to say that he is Lord of the Sabbath?

3:1-6 In what way does this illustrate the same point made in the previous verses?

3:7-12 Why does Jesus silence the evil spirits when they know who he is?

3:13-19 Why is it significant that Jesus calls these men, and yet the list includes the betrayer?

3:20-30 Jesus is thought to be out of his mind and demon possessed. What might have been the reasons for such charges?

Carefully look at the context and then describe the “unforgiveable sin”.

3:31-35 Do you think Jesus is rejecting his mother and brothers? Why or why not?

What is Jesus' definition of family here?

### **EXPLORATION**

- Exodus 20:8-11
- Matthew 8:18-22
- John 15:5-25
- Romans 8:14-17
- 1 Timothy 1:12-17

### **APPLICATION**

- When you pursue Jesus, how should this change your view of people?
- Why is it important to understand that Jesus is not an additive to make life better, or to remodel us, but to make us new? (2 Corinthians 5:17)
- How can religious practice get in the way of true spiritual life?
- How can these four circumstances be wrong equated with following Jesus?
  - 1) Knowing facts about who Jesus is.
  - 2) Being identified as one who follows Jesus.
  - 3) Having a religious education.
  - 4) Being related to spiritual people.
- According to Jesus' words in John 6:40, what is God's will?

### **SUMMATION**

- Fact: What are key truths that you understood from this passage?
- React: What did you feel?
- Act: What are you going to do?