

LIFE GROUP STUDY GUIDE

From January 21, 2018 Sermon

1. In Mark 2:1-12, Jesus uses physical healing to address the deeper issue of sin.
 - a. Why did Jesus suddenly address spiritual healing instead of continuing with physical healing only?
 - b. Why do you think the Pharisees and scribes, who knew the prophecies of a coming Messiah, didn't see who Jesus was even after He healed physically, offered forgiveness with the authority of God, perceived the thoughts of man, and called Himself the Son of Man?
2. In Mark 2:13-17, Jesus demonstrates that pride gets in the way of real fellowship.
 - a. What got in the way of the relationship between the Pharisees and the tax collectors and sinners?
 - b. In wondering why Jesus was reclining with sinners, the Pharisees acknowledge that they think Jesus was better than the sinners, thereby, recognizing that Jesus wasn't just a "normal" man. Why didn't they further realize that He was the Son of God?
 - c. What gets in the way of you having real fellowship with others? What gets in the way of you recognizing and putting into practice that Jesus is the Son of God?
3. In Mark 2:18-22, Jesus addresses the issue of traditions that have gotten in the way of God's plan of redemption.
 - a. What areas of your life do you hold as sacred but they are in the way of what God is trying to do in your life?
 - i. Be careful! These areas can be disguised as something you're passionate about but has become an idol.
 - b. What does it mean to you that Jesus came to provide something new rather than a patch to the old?
4. In Mark 2:23-3:6, Jesus demonstrates that in Him, there is total freedom and no condemnation.
 - a. Why was this so hard for the Pharisees to accept? So hard, in fact, that this caused them to begin a plot of how to kill him!
 - b. What God intended to be something enjoyable for man became a burden (the sabbath) because of misapplication and adherence to man-made rules. This is opposite of God's grace. Discuss your understanding and the importance of God's grace!
 - c. Discuss what it means to be free in Christ.
 - i. Even though there is freedom in Christ, does that mean all things are beneficial? Read 1 Corinthians 10:23
 - ii. Are there any freedoms in Christ that have gotten in the way of having fellowship with others or showing the compassion of Christ?
 1. Are you defending these with pride or are you humbly recognizing the importance of fellowship with others are more important?