

STUDY 1 - The Powerful King (Mark 1:21-34)

What do you think are the greatest threats to humanity at the moment?

The story so far ... Jesus is the King promised in the Old Testament, which shows that he would come to save his people by being judged in their place.

Read Mark 1:21-34

1. List the different things that King Jesus has authority or power over in these verses:
 - (a) vv. 21-22
 - (b) vv. 23-28
 - (c) vv. 29-34
2. In each of the passages above, how does Jesus demonstrate this power? And how do the people respond?
3. From these events, explain in your own words why the coming of this powerful King really is such good news.
4. How would you respond to someone who doesn't believe in the possibility of evil spirits or miraculous healings?

Read Mark 2:1-12

6. Why is Jesus' authority to forgive sins seen by the religious teachers as a completely unacceptable claim to power?
7. How does this event help us to see Jesus' priorities (see also 1:35-39)?

Implications

- ! In what ways are you conscious of Jesus' power at work in your life?
- ! “Jesus was a wonderful teacher, but that doesn't mean I need to treat him as God” - how would you respond to someone who said this to you?
- ! How does the reality of Jesus' great power overcome the things that threaten us – whether as individuals or humanity as a whole?

Give thanks and pray

Pray for upcoming church courses and events – CAP Money, Parish dinner, PTC, etc.

Think of specific people you could invite to these events, and pray for them by name.