

Mark: Jesus' New Way Sunday: 01/21/24 – Lenard Tavernelli –

Mark 2:13-3:6

“Since Jesus has established his new way, let us follow him, call and welcome repentant sinners, and serve the cause of life and flourishing.”

Overview

This week Pastor Lenard covered a very packed portion of Mark. In this week's passage we reviewed the calling of Levi (Matthew), fasting and the new reality of the kingdom, Jesus as the Lord of the Sabbath, and the healing of the withered hand on the Sabbath. Each of these small passages focus on a topic while at the same time they go deeper in revealing more about Jesus.

In the Levi passage, we learn about the difference between Levi's calling and the other disciples while also learning that Jesus came for the Lost. In the fasting passage we see the practice in a different light while at the same time we see that Jesus' kingdom is something new. In the Sabbath passage we see God's rest in its proper context and see that Jesus is Lord over it. In the passage of the withered hand, we see Jesus' healing on the Sabbath and the Pharisees plot to do evil.

In our passage Jesus reveals more of who he is the passage also encourages us to receive him, to rest in him, and to do good like him.

Outline

1. Jesus calls and welcomes sinners (2:13-17): *1 Corinthians 15:33, Romans 15:7*
2. Jesus establishes the way of joy (2:18-22): *Hebrews 8:13*
3. Jesus rules over sabbath rest (2:23-28): *Deuteronomy 23:25, Hebrews 4:9-11*
4. Jesus restores life and flourishing (3:1-6)

Discussion Questions

We learned that Jesus gave the examples of new and old wineskins when questioned about fasting. From this example we learned that Jesus' kingdom is something completely new, not just a patch on Judaism.

1. As the Pharisees missed the point can you think of times that you missed the point in an area of your faith?

Concerning fasting, Pastor Lenard addressed the question of whether fasting is appropriate or not for the believer. Pastor Lenard communicated that fasting is appropriate but not commandment. Fasting is an issue of Christian liberty.

2. What was the difference between how O.T. Jews were called to fast as compared to the practice of the Pharisees?
 - a. How does the New Testament speak to fasting? *Matthew 6:16–18, Mark 9:14–29, Acts, etc....*
 - b. What has been your experience with fasting?
 - c. What function does fasting have in the life of a Christian?
3. The Sabbath rest was made for man and Jesus is Lord of the Sabbath. As Jesus explained this to the Pharisees, he showed great compassion on the man with the withered hand.
 - a. Why did God give man a Sabbath rest?
 - b. What are your Sabbath practices?
 - c. What does Jesus example of mercy and healing on the Sabbath teach you about the role of Sabbath in your life?
4. What steps of faith do you need to take in the areas of Sabbath Rest and Fasting?
5. Was there anything else that stood out to you in the sermon?