

# 1:10 JOURNEY GROUP DISCUSSION GUIDE

Leaders: Let this page stimulate a discussion of the text... it's OK if you don't cover each question!

## Opener:

- 1 Think of a time when you were hurting or in need. How did someone show you compassion?

## Getting Started:

- 2 What insight, principle, or observation from Sunday's message did you find to be most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain.
- 3 How has God been speaking to you this past week through your personal devotions in His Word?

## Digging Deeper:

- 4 **Read 1:29-34.** What impression of Jesus do you get from his visit to the home of Simon and Andrew? What did Simon's mother-in-law do upon being healed? What should we learn from this?
- 5 **Read 1:35-39.** What do these verses reveal about Jesus priorities? What have you found to be the best *time* and *place* to meet with the Lord in prayer and Bible reading? What might Jesus have been praying about at this time? Why are people seeking Him? Why does He not stay longer for ministry in that place?
- 6 **Read 1:40-45.** What did the leper believe as he approached Jesus in v 40? What might he have been feeling? What can we learn about compassion from the way Jesus responded to him? Who are the lepers of our society today?
- 7 **Read 2:1-4.** What risks did the men take who carried the paralytic? Is this something you would have done? How do you think the paralytic felt? Have you ever been the recipient of such an extraordinary display of true friendship?
- 8 **Read 2:5-12.** How does Jesus respond to the interruption of his preaching? How do you think the paralytic felt when Jesus said, "your sins are forgiven"? Why were the scribes upset about this? Why did Jesus forgive sins before healing the body? When has God exceeded your expectations and provided more than you expected?

Sunday, September 20, 2009 • Summit Evangelical Free Church, Alta, IA • Pastor Doug Corlew  
Series: *WAY TO GO: Serving & Giving Like Jesus* (Gospel of Mark), Message #2

## COMPASSION: THE HEART OF GOD'S SERVANT

*Mark 1:29-2:12*

The Servant of the Lord cares for people... and springs into action to meet their needs!

1. Turning \_\_\_\_\_ (1:29-34)

2. Tuning \_\_\_\_\_ (1:35-39)

3. Trading \_\_\_\_\_ (1:40-45)

4. Targeting \_\_\_\_\_ (2:1-12)

## Monday, September 21

## Read Mark 1:29-34

Reflect also on these passages and their relevance to Jesus' healing of Peter's mother-in-law and the crowds that came to Him. What are your needs today? Does Jesus care about your circumstances? Will you turn to Him in prayer and trust Him?

**1 Peter 5:7**

**Philippians 4:6**

**John 11:1-44**

"His reaching down and taking a dear woman by the hand was simply a natural, instinctive action springing from Jesus' sympathetic love... an expression of his genuine love and his desire to tenderly meet the woman's need. Jesus' touch tells us volumes about what He is like and how much He loves us. To touch us in healing and in love—that is His instinctive way—the way of His healing heart." — R. Kent Hughes

## Tuesday, September 22

## Read Mark 1:35-39

Reflect also on these passages and their relevance to Jesus' priority of finding a time and a place for extended prayer. How important was prayer to Jesus, and how important is prayer to you?

**Luke 3:21; 6:12; 9:29**

**Matthew 14:1-23 (note v 13, 22)**

**Hebrews 5:7**

"What shall we say to those who pray, yet give only a little time to their prayers? We are obliged to say that they show at present very little of the mind of Christ. Asking little, they must expect to have little. Seeking little, they cannot be surprised if they possess little. It will always be found that when prayers are few, grace, strength, peace and hope are small."—J.C. Ryle

## Wednesday, September 23

## Read Mark 1:40-45

Reflect also on these passages and their relevance to Jesus' cleansing of the leprous man. Since leprosy was especially symbolic of sin, meditate on your own "cleansing."

**Leviticus 13:45-46**

**2 Kings 5:1-14**

**Luke 17:11-19**

"There is a foul soul-disease which is engrained in our very nature, and clings to our bones and marrow with deadly force. That disease is the plague of sin. Like leprosy, it is a deep-seated disease, infecting every part of our human nature... Like leprosy, it makes us loathsome and abominable, unfit for the company of God and for the glory of heaven. Like leprosy it is incurable by any earthly physician, and is slowly but surely dragging us down to the second death. And worst of all, far worse than leprosy, it is a disease from which no mortal is exempt. 'All of us have become' in God's sight 'like one who is unclean' (Isaiah 64:6)." - J.C. Ryle

## Thursday, September 24

## Read Mark 2:1-4

Reflect also on these passages and their relevance to the ministry of the paralytic's four friends. How much persistence, creativity, and sacrifice are you willing to demonstrate to help a friend in need?

**Acts 5:12-16**

**Philippians 2:19-30**

"What would have happened had the friends given up? What if they had shrugged their shoulders and mumbled something about the crowd being big and dinner getting cold and turned and left? After all, they had done a good deed in coming this far. Who could fault them for turning back? You can only do so much for somebody. But these friends hadn't done enough... It was risky... it was dangerous... it was unorthodox... it was intrusive... But it was their only chance to see Jesus... Faith does these things. Faith does the unexpected."—Max Lucado

## Friday, September 25

## Read Mark 2:5-12

Reflect also on these passages and their relevance to Jesus' declaration that "the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins." Is there a greater blessing to be experienced than the forgiveness of sins?

**Psalms 25:16-18**

**Psalms 32:1-5**

**Hebrews 9:22-28**

"Who can doubt that to the end of his days this man would thank God for this paralysis? Without it he would probably have lived and died in ignorance, and never seen Christ at all. Without it, he might have never been brought to Christ, and never heard the blessed words, 'your sins are forgiven.' That paralysis was indeed a blessing. Who can tell but it was the beginning of eternal life to his soul?" (see Psalm 119:71)—J.C. Ryle

## Saturday, September 26

## Read Mark 2:13–3:6

As you prepare for tomorrow's message, read through this passage and note the CRITICS of Jesus Christ.