

POWERFUL PREACHING

Mark 1:21-28

I. THE TWELFTH MAN

- A. *“And they went into Capernaum, and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught” (Mark 1:21).*
- B. Home filed advantage.
 - 1. Capernaum was the hometown of the first four disciples: Peter, Andrew, James and John.
 - 2. Going to the synagogue was a customary practice.
- C. Feeling the support of those around us is often the difference between success and failure.
 - 1. A toddler says, “Watch me! Watch me!”
 - 2. A six-year old pleads, “Listen to me! Listen to me!”
 - 3. A teenager hopefully glances into the audience.
- D. Do you have a 12th man?
 - 1. Even Jesus had a twelfth man.
 - 2. Are you a 12th man for your kids, your parents, a co-worker?

II. THAT’S AN UNDERSTATEMENT

- A. *“And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes” (Mark 1:22).*
- B. Some people are masters of understatement.
 - 1. Those who referred to the Civil War as “the recent unpleasantness.”
 - 2. Saying that Hurricane Katrina was “a bad storm.”
- C. The people in the synagogue at Capernaum.
 - 1. Jesus preached a powerful sermon, but it was not just what he said, but how he said it, and what he did.
 - 2. The people were amazed.

III. IT’S TIME TO DTR

- A. *“I know who you are, the Holy One of God” (Mark 1:24).*
- B. A raving man interrupted a great worship experience.
 - 1. No one brought the possessed man to Jesus to be healed.
 - 2. He was the only one who recognized who Jesus was.
 - 3. What happened to Jesus when he went to his real hometown?
- C. Now comes the understatement: *“What is this? A new teaching!” (1:27).*
 - 1. We almost always automatically connect teaching with boredom.
 - 2. This was anything but boring!
- D. They experienced what we all want to experience.
 - 1. A human life was restored.
 - 2. They were all changed.

Prayer Concerns: Burney Biesel, Brain Haslop, Mac Kerr, Anne Miller, Vicki Page, Mildred Sentell, **Doris Swafford**, Joe Tidwell, Jr., Carol Webb, Lucille Alwerdt, **Madelyn Beamon**, Ray Billings, Dorothy Burns, Gene Burns, Patti Chou, Betty Crenshaw, Diane Donner, Ed Gatlin, Charles Hamilton, Jean Hansford, Kristi Jackson, Charles Jamison, Joyce Kuhl, Jerry Lunch, Judy Malaquias, Macy Morgan, Taylor Murray, Moody Palmer, Betty Scott, **Lori Smith**, Marian Wiehle ...

PASTORAL PRAYER

Lord Jesus, we are in church today because you have called us, invited us, and summoned us here. We are here, not because we searched for you, but rather because you searched for us, found us, and claimed us.

Sometimes we are astonished by what we see and hear. You are a burning bush, Lord, but you are more than a flame that shines. Open our eyes when we see your presence, so we will take off our shoes in reverence. You are a master teacher, but you are more than a commanding word. Open our ears when we hear that word, so we will be amazed by your truth.

We are grateful for this time of worship, but even though this hour is rich, it's short, and we know that if our time with you is limited to this experience, it's not enough. So we need to feel you with us in other moments. Some of us worry about our families; there are problems we cannot solve for them, and we grieve for them, and we need your presence in the way we talk to them, and the way we think of them. Some of us are worried about our health; this life is all we've ever had, and we forget quickly that in every moment of life we are in your hands, so we need you to give us courage. Some of us are frustrated with life because for us it has become pointless, and we need you to open our eyes every day to reasons for living.

Keep close to us in these moments. Break into the walled cities of our hearts, and come stay with us. Hear us now as we pray the prayer you taught us to pray ...

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory; forever. Amen.

MARK 1:21-28

And they went into Capernaum; and immediately on the Sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught. And they were astonished at his teaching, for he taught them as one who had authority, and not as the scribes. And immediately there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, "What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God." But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent, and come out of him!" And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. And they were all amazed, so that they questioned among themselves, saying, "What is this? A new teaching! With authority he commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him." And at once his fame spread everywhere throughout all the surrounding region of Galilee.

SERMON SCHEDULE FOR FEBRUARY

In the Sanctuary:

February 5	<i>Driving Out Demons</i>	Mark 1:29-39
February 12	<i>Running the Race</i>	1 Corinthians 9:24-27
February 19	<i>Yes and No</i>	2 Corinthians 1:18-22
February 26	<i>It's Good to Be Here</i>	Mark 9:2-9

On the Radio (1450 AM):

February 5	<i>The Lord Is My Shepherd</i>	Psalms 23:1-3
February 12	<i>Walking Through the Valley</i>	Psalms 23:4-6
February 19	<i>The Lord's Prayer (Part 1)</i>	Matthew 6:9-13
February 26	<i>The Lord's Prayer (Part 2)</i>	Matthew 6:9-13