

Connecting Through the Word
Jesus, The Servant King
Mark 11-16

Mark 11:1-11

¹ Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples

² and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it.

³ If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'"

⁴ And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it.

⁵ And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?"

⁶ And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go.

⁷ And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it.

⁸ And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields.

⁹ And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

¹⁰ Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

¹¹ And he entered Jerusalem and went into the temple. And when he had looked around at everything, as it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the twelve.

As we finish our messages in the Gospel of Mark today we want to remember that in the four Gospels:

Matthew – Written for the Jews – Jesus is the Promised Messiah

Mark – Written for the Romans – Jesus is the Perfect Servant

Luke – Written for the Greeks – Jesus is the Perfect Son of Man

John – Written for the World – Jesus is the Son of God

Remember Mark and his "Bump in the Road"!

He is writing this Gospel in Rome while ministering to both Paul and Peter.

This Gospel was written for the common man.

The emphasis on more of what Jesus did rather than what Jesus said. A book of action. "Immediately"

The key verse in the book of Mark is in the last chapter we looked at last week.

Mark 10:43-45

But it shall not be so among you. But whoever would be great among you must be your servant, and whoever would be first among you must be slave of all. For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."

Jesus came to serve and give His life as a ransom (payment, payoff, exchange, redemption, redeem) for many.

Mark 15:27-32

With Him they also crucified two robbers, one on His right and the other on His left. So the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "And He was numbered with the transgressors." And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, save Yourself, and come down from the cross!" Likewise the chief priests also, mocking among themselves with the scribes, said, "He saved others; Himself He cannot save. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, descend now from the cross, that we may see

and believe." Even those who were crucified with Him reviled Him.

If Jesus saved Himself, He could not save others!
He identified with the sinners even in His death!

Remember in Mark 10, Jesus was teaching His disciples a lesson on humility and greatness!

We have been sent to serve and to give our lives as a ransom for others that they too might be saved.

This brings us to chapter 11

The Time:

Sunday – The last week of Jesus in Jerusalem before His crucifixion. Palm Sunday

The Place:

Near Jerusalem, going through Bethany and Bethphage.

Bethany was a village in Judea about two miles east of Jerusalem (John 11:18), a distance considered a “Sabbath day’s journey” (Acts 1:12). Bethany was situated on the well-traveled road to Jericho. Some scholars think Bethany was more like a modern subdivision or a neighborhood rather than an entire town. The edges of Bethany reached to the Mount of Olives and also bordered Bethphage, a suburb of Jerusalem.

Bethany is probably best known for being the hometown of Jesus’ good friends, Mary, Martha, and Lazarus. Bethany was the place where Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead (John 11:1, 41–44), it was the home of Simon the leper (Mark 14:3–10), and it was the place where Mary anointed Jesus’ feet with perfume (Matthew 26:6–13). Other references to Bethany are Mark 11:1 and Luke 19:29, which describe the preparations

for Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, the cursing of the fig tree in Mark 11:11–13, and the place where Jesus stayed overnight during His final week of earthly ministry, between His triumphal entry and His crucifixion (Matthew 21:17).

The name *Bethany* is translated by some to mean “house of figs,” as there are many fig trees and palms in the area; others translate it as “house of misery,” speculating that Bethany was a designated place for the sick and those with contagious diseases.

The Sending of the two:

We are not told which two were sent.

When we go to share the Good News it is good to have a companion go with us.

Sent to Bethphage (House of Unripe Fruit)

The Instructions:

“Go into the village in front of you”

We are to go to those nearest us...

“Immediately” The urgency of our task

“Find a colt tied...”

A picture of sinners tied to their sins.

Tied to money

Tied to immorality and pleasure

Tied to humanism

Tied to religion

Tied to relationships

Tied to things and materialism

Tied to philosophy and science

Tied to their past offences
Tied to bitterness and guilt
Tied to drugs and alcohol
Tied to _____

They can't loose themselves... they need someone to untie them!!!!

"had never been ridden" "on which no one has ever sat"

This colt like a sinner, is untamed.
Have you ever rode a young horse or pony?
They will kick, buck, run and do their best to throw you off their back. They will rebel!

A sinner is in rebellion against God!

The disciples were ask to do two things with the colt.
"untie it"
"bring it to Jesus"

We are to gently and kindly untie our friends and others from their sins.
We don't need someone's permission...
"If you are asked "what are you doing?"

Tell them, "Jesus wants this one"

"The Lord has need of it" The Lord needs you!
He needs you to carry Him to the Cross!
He needs you to carry His Cross!
He needs you to carry His message!
He needs you to fellowship with Him!
He needs you to worship Him!

"Do this immediately" Again the urgency!

The Obedience of the Disciples

"And they went..."

I want to use the Old King James Version here:

Mark 11:4

And they went their way, and found the colt tied by the door without in a place where two ways met; and they loose him.

They found:

Of course they did! Jesus said they would...

I'm convinced that there people everywhere that want to be loosed from their bondage to sin.

I was teaching at Treasure Island Youth Camp my first summer at LBC. Teaching on winning souls...

A little boy ask:

What do we do if we run into a sinner? Like, do you think we will ever find one?

Reminds me of the confederate soldier in the Civil War.

Came back to his camp with ten Union prisoners and was asked, "Where did you get them?"

He replied, "The woods are full of them... just go out there and get them."

The world is full of tied up poor sinners"

"by the door"

Jesus is the door!

John 10:7-10 (ESV)

So Jesus again said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, I am the door of the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and

robbers, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved and will go in and out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.

People are so close to salvation!
Right next to the door!

“Without” “outside”
A terrible place to be!
Without Hope
Without God
Without Peace
Without Love
Without Life
Without Jesus

Revelation 22:13-15

I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, the first and the last. Blessed are they that do his commandments, that they may have right to the tree of life, and may enter in through the gates into the city. For without are dogs, and sorcerers, and whoremongers, and murderers, and idolaters, and whosoever loveth and maketh a lie.

Jesus was crucified “without”!

Hebrews 13:12

Wherefore Jesus also, that he might sanctify the people with his own blood, suffered without the gate.

The Place of a sinner is at a crossroads
“In a place where two ways met”

Every person comes to this crossroad in life!
This is the place of decision!
Which road will I take?

Only two ways!

The Broad way that leads to destruction!

The way of religion
The way of humanism and selfishness
The way of the world, the flesh and the devil

The Narrow way that leads to life!

Jesus is the way, the truth and the life, no one comes to the Father but by Me! John 14:6

The choice is yours!!!!

They brought the colt to Jesus!!!!

They cover the colt with cloaks
Jesus sat on it and it did not resist!
It was instantly tamed! Conquered! Set free!
By the power of Jesus!

And Jesus was worshipped! And the crowds recognized Him as King and Messiah!

On the next day Jesus returned to Jerusalem...

He saw a fig tree with no fruit...

A picture of Israel

It had outward religion, the temple, the sacrifices and the rituals.
But it was dead within... only leaves but no fruit!

Is that you today?

Outwardly you might have others fooled!

You have on the cloak of Christianity... but inwardly you have no real spiritual life for fruit to give evidence to your salvation!

Jesus cleanses the Temple

Then the next day, the disciples see the fig tree all withered away even to the roots.

Jesus gives a lesson on faith and prayer:

Mark 11:22-26

²² So Jesus answered and said to them, "Have faith in God.

²³ For assuredly, I say to you, whoever says to this mountain, 'Be removed and be cast into the sea,' and does not doubt in his heart, but believes that those things he says will be done, he will have whatever he says.

²⁴ Therefore I say to you, whatever things you ask when you pray, believe that you receive *them*, and you will have *them*.

²⁵ "And whenever you stand praying, if you have anything against anyone, forgive him, that your Father in heaven may also forgive you your trespasses.

²⁶ But if you do not forgive, neither will your Father in heaven forgive your trespasses."

Remember the Gospel of Mark is for the common man!

You can have faith in God!

You can pray!

You can remove mountains of doubt and fear and guilt!

You can forgive and be forgiven!

Say it faith!!!!

“he will have whatever he says”

One last point today!

Mark points out after the resurrection of Jesus the first person He appeared was to Mary Magdalene.

Mark 16:9-13 (NKJV)

⁹ Now when *He* rose early on the first *day* of the week, He appeared first to Mary Magdalene, out of whom He had cast seven demons.

¹⁰ She went and told those who had been with Him, as they

mourned and wept.

¹¹ And when they heard that He was alive and had been seen by her, they did not believe.

¹² After that, He appeared in another form to two of them as they walked and went into the country.

¹³ And they went and told *it* to the rest, *but* they did not believe them either.

Of all the people in the world, His first appearance was to a lady out of whom seven demons had be cast out.

This message of Mark is for the ordinary, oppressed, possessed people of our world today!!!!

“they would not believe it” “they did not believe them”

Today! Believe and Receive!!!!