

DISCOVER JESUS WITH MARK

LIFE GROUP MATERIAL

Meeting no 2 THEME: Set your priorities!

Prepare yourself. Pray for your Life Group's meeting. Read Mark 1 : 14 – 39.

20.00 – 20.10 Start 'First things first'. Share: Is there something you are aware you need to prioritise and pay attention to more?

20.10 – 20.15 Pray.

20.15 - 20.40 Bible passage: Read Mark 1:14-39.

Observe how the passage starts and ends with Jesus preaching (verse 14, verses 38-39).

- Why did Jesus prioritise preaching and teaching? And why is it important for us to know this?

Look again at verses 16-20.

- What strikes you here?
- How will these men become 'fishers of men'?

Look again at verses 21-28.

- The unclean spirit says through this man that Jesus is 'dangerous' (what have we to do with you & have you come to destroy us). Is this true or a liar? Can we feel similar tensions today?

Look again at verse 29-34.

- For Jesus to prioritise preaching, did not mean 'preaching only'. We see him here (and many times afterwards) pay attention with compassion to people with all kind of diseases and suffering from demons. What should this mean for us today? How do we make this practical?

Look again at verses 35-39.

- Feel the tension here. 'Everyone is looking for you' – implies what Jesus should do. However, he doesn't follow their suggestion, but prioritises to preach also in other places. He is strong enough to hold onto this because he had prioritised to pray.

Lesson: Since the Gospel is the treasure of the church, the preaching of the Gospel should be the church's priority. This is not 'a preacher's task only'.

20.40 – 20.50 Digging deeper

Read these verses: Mark 16:15, Acts 2:42, Col.4:2-4. Take one or two minutes of silence, asking the Spirit to show you how you can (practically) grow herein from now on. Share.

20.50 – 21.00 End the Life Group meeting with praying together.