

Sermon Discussion Guide

The Authority of Jesus

Mark 1:21–28

Authority in teaching (21–22)

- Why did Jesus' teaching astonish the people? How was his teaching different from the teaching of the scribes?
- What was Jesus' message?
- How does the emphasis on Jesus' authority in teaching point to his identity?

Authority over demons (23–28)

1 John 3:8; Eph. 2:1–3

- Of all the miracles Jesus' performed, why does Mark start with Jesus casting out a demon? How does this show us that the salvation Jesus came to accomplish is bigger than we often imagine?
- In what way is the demon possessed man a picture of all people apart from being joined to Christ by faith (see Eph. 2:1–3)?
- How is the cross a more spectacular display of Jesus' power and authority than even his work of casting out demons?