

In Mark 2:23-3:6 we find Jesus involved in 2 questions that further establish His authority as the Son of Man and the Pharisees' opposition to Him.

- I. The Pharisees ask a question: Why do you let your disciples engage in unlawful Sabbath behavior?
 - A. The scenario is set (2:23).
 - B. The question is asked (2:24).
 - C. The question is answered (2:25-26).
 - D. The implications of the answer (2:27-28).

- II. Jesus asks a question: What do you consider lawful Sabbath behavior?
 - A. The scenario is set (3:1-3).
 - B. The question is asked (3:4).
 - C. The question is answered (3:5a).
 - D. The implications of the answer (3:5b-6).

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, March 29, 2015

Passage: Mark 2:23-3:6

Memory Passage: Mark 2:27-28

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 2:23-2:28.** Today & tomorrow we will examine Mark's account alone, Wednesday we will examine OT texts, Thursday we will look at the other gospels, and Friday we will work on application. After only one reading, use one sentence to describe the main point of this story (remember to keep the context of Mark in mind!).
- (b) What actions do the Pharisees think are unlawful (use only the facts found in Mark to answer)?
- (c) What point is Jesus making by referencing the story in 1 Samuel 21?
- (d) Explain vs. 27-28, including how they continue Mark's unveiling of Jesus and His mission.

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 3:1-6.** After only one reading, use one sentence to describe the main point of this story.
- (b) How does this story's main point differ from the main point of 2:23-28?
- (c) Why would healing a man on the Sabbath be grounds for the Pharisees to accuse Jesus?
- (d) Why does Jesus ask the questions He poses in v. 4, and what answers does He expect to be given?
- (e) Why does the Pharisees silence reveal their hard hearts, and how does v. 6 confirm Jesus' diagnosis?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Lev. 15:18, 24:5-9 & 1 Sam. 20-22.** Did David tell Ahimelech the truth in 21:2-3, and what was the result of his actions (cf. 22:6ff)?
- (b) How do we reconcile Jesus saying Abiathar was the high priest when 1 Samuel 21 says the priest was Ahimelech?
- (c) According to Lev. 15:18 & 24:9 should Ahimelech have given David the bread?
- (d) What is more important to Jesus in the gospels: the actions David did, or the fact that it was David who did it? Explain.

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Matt. 12:1-14 & Luke 6:1-11.** What details are found in Mark that are missing from Matthew & Luke?
- (b) What details are found in Matthew & Luke that are missing from Mark, and how do they help us understand Mark?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 2:23-3:6, Col. 2:6-19, & Heb. 4:1-13.** The only 2 places in the NT outside of the gospels & Acts that "Sabbath" is mentioned are Col. 2:16 & Heb. 4:9. Meditate on what you have learned in this week's study, especially the truth that Jesus is the greater David and Lord of the Sabbath. Now consider the passages in Colossians & Hebrews and answer the following questions. (1) Why do believers worship on Sunday instead of the OT Sabbath (sundown Friday through sundown Saturday)? (2) Are New Covenant believers commanded to keep the Sabbath as the OT instructs? (3) If you answered "no" to question 2, are New Covenant believers able to set aside the other 9 commandments (remember that the 4th commandment instructs us to "remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy"), and if not, then upon what Biblical grounds are we able to set aside the 4th? (4) If you answered "yes" to question 2, do you honor the Sabbath from sundown Friday to sundown Saturday with the prescribed Sabbath meal, and if not, what is your biblical basis for changing the day and how it is celebrated? (5) How do you respond to people who disagree with you over how believers should "remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy?" (6) Since Jesus does not abrogate the Sabbath when he says, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath. So the Son of Man is Lord even of the Sabbath" how does this affect your obedience to the 4th commandment?

DATE: March 29, 2015

PASSAGE: Mark 2:18-3:6

Lord Even of the Sabbath