



Anglican  
Church of Noosa

# JESUS *man of authority*

Mark 1:21-28  
Mark 1:29-39  
Mark 1:40-45


Authority over Darkness  
Source of Authority  
Authority over Sickness

January 31 - February 14, 2021



## **CONNECT GROUP QUESTIONS - Week 1**

### **Mark 1:21-28 - Authority over Darkness**

- Does the word 'authority' primarily raise for you positive or negative images?
  - How would you describe the difference between the authority of Jesus' teaching and that of the teachers of the law (scribes)?
  - Can you think of a story in one of the Gospels that shows another aspect of Jesus' authority. Consider the story in Mark 2:1 – 12.
  - There are many different attitudes to the demonic amongst Christians. Take time in the group for people to share as much or as little as they wish about this spiritual issue. Be sensitive to the different views that are shared.
  - Why do you think the impure spirit knew Jesus' true identity?
  - Why do you think Jesus ordered the impure spirit to be quiet?
  - Is it reasonable to see the demonic at work in some of the more horrific events of our world?
  - How does today's passage expand your understanding of the Kingdom of God?
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## CONNECT GROUP QUESTIONS - Week 2

### Mark 1:29-39 - Source of Authority

- Have you had any experience of remarkable healing? or witnessed another's healing? Share around the group.
- As soon as Jesus was in their house, Simon and Andrew told him about the woman's sickness. How quick or slow are you to remember to bring your needs to Jesus? In the 'slow' times, why do you think we forget to come to the Lord?
- The woman immediately served Jesus and the disciples following her healing. Reflect on your life and your eagerness to serve in the past and now. Share those reflections with the group. Read Mark 9:35; 10:41-45 and 15:41 to help your thinking.
- Have you ever sought times of solitude specifically for prayer and replenishment? Why do you think Jesus wanted and needed this time apart?
- It appears Simon's reasons for wanting to bring Jesus back were grandiose, so that 'everybody' could see him and his miracles again. How can we be keen to appropriately share Jesus with others without being obnoxious or off-putting?
- v.38 Jesus did not want to be distracted from his main calling. How can we enable the good news to keep going forward, both locally and globally?







## CONNECT GROUP QUESTIONS - Week 3

### Mark 1:40-45 - Authority over Sickness

- Leprosy is still a terrible problem in many countries, with India having the most cases. Search out more about it as you come to this study. What diseases in our day would attract similar public response to leprosy in Biblical times?
  - Have a brief look at Leviticus 13 and 14. Priests were the ones who simply 'declared' whether a person was clean or unclean, which is why Leviticus goes into such detail. What impact does it have on a society which declares certain people 'clean' and others 'unclean'?
  - Why do you think the leper wondered whether Jesus was willing to heal?
  - Reflect on Jesus' response, and especially that he touched the leper. Why do you think that was significant?
  - Why would Jesus heal him and then tell him not to talk about it? See Mk 1:25 and 34 as well.
  - Following Jesus requires adaptability and obedience. How did Jesus' ministry change because this leper spread the news? And what might this mean for the disciples?
  - What challenges have you taken on board from from these weeks, and how might your discipleship be impacted?
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