

United Church of Marco Island

Mark Bible Study #6: Tuesday, February 19th at 10AM and 7PM

Mark 4:35 – 6:6 “Fear and Faith”

Introductions

Opening Prayer

Discussion Questions:

1. In Mark 4: 35-41, the disciples are afraid of the storm and disturbed that Jesus seems unconcerned about their drowning. Once Jesus calms the storm, however, they are still terrified. How does their fear after the storm differ from their previous fears?
2. How was Jesus in ministry with Legion?
3. What was the fate of the pigs and why did they drown?
4. At the end of his encounter with Legion, Jesus seems to reverse strategy. He tells someone to go tell others about his healing. Why reverse strategy at this moment?
5. Who is Jairus and what does Jairus do?
6. While Jesus is walking to Jairus's house, a woman with internal bleeding touches Jesus's clothes. Why does she do that instead of directly speaking to him?
7. As this woman is healed, someone arrives from Jairus's house to tell him his daughter has died. How does Jesus respond to this news?
8. Why does Jesus command the girl's parents and his companions not to tell anyone about his miracle, whereas he told the demon-possessed man to tell everyone about his healing?
9. In 5: 21-43, two stories are woven together—the stories of Jairus's daughter and the woman with the hemorrhage. How are these incidents related? How are both stories about fear and faith?
10. Explain “the prophet without honor” in Mark 6: 1-6.

United Church of Marco Island

Mark Bible Study #7: Tuesday, February 26th at 10AM and 7PM

Mark 6:6 – 52 “Understanding the Loaves”

Introductions

Opening Prayer

Discussion Questions:

1. What do Jesus's instructions to the Twelve tell us about the kind of ministry they were to have (v. 6-13)?
2. What kind of man was Herod (v. 14-29)?
3. In terms of the parable of the sower, what kind of soil was he?
4. Why do you suppose that Mark recounted the execution of John the Baptist?
5. What differences are there between Jesus's approach to the crowd and that of his disciples? (v. 30-44)
6. Jesus and Herod, the two kings in this passage, both serve banquets. Compare the two.
7. Imagine yourself as one of the disciples in the boat (v. 45-52) How would you respond to seeing Jesus walk on water?
8. What should the disciples have understood about the loaves? (v.52)
9. Mark tells us that the disciples failed to understand the loaves because their hearts were hardened. What seems to have led to this hardness of heart?
10. Recognizing the contributing factors, what steps can we take to counteract a hardened heart?