

## A Study of Mark - Lesson 02

### Mark 1:14-28 “Jesus Begins His Work”

#### Jesus Announces the Good News

1<sup>14</sup> After John was put in prison, / Jesus went into Galilee, /  
proclaiming the good news of God. / <sup>15</sup> “The time has come,” / he  
said. / “The kingdom of God has come near. / Repent / and believe the  
good news!” /

#### Jesus Calls His First Disciples

<sup>16</sup> As Jesus walked / beside the Sea of Galilee, / he saw Simon / and  
his brother Andrew / casting a net into the lake, / for they were  
fishermen. / <sup>17</sup> “Come, follow me,” / Jesus said, / “and I will send you  
out / to fish for people.” / <sup>18</sup> At once / they left their nets / and  
followed him.

<sup>19</sup> When he had gone a little farther, / he saw James / son of Zebedee /  
and his brother / John / in a boat, / preparing their nets. / <sup>20</sup> Without  
delay / he called them, / and they left their father / Zebedee / in the  
boat with the hired men / and followed him.

#### Jesus Drives Out an Impure Spirit

<sup>21</sup> They went to Capernaum, / and when the Sabbath came, / Jesus went  
into the synagogue / and began to teach. / <sup>22</sup> The people were amazed at  
his teaching, / because he taught them / as one who had authority, / not

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as the teachers of the law. / <sup>23</sup> Just then / a man in their synagogue /  
who was possessed by an impure spirit / cried out, / <sup>24</sup> “What do you  
want with us, / Jesus of Nazareth? / Have you come to destroy us? / I  
know who you are / —the Holy One of God!”

<sup>25</sup> “Be quiet!” / said Jesus sternly. / “Come out of him!” / <sup>26</sup> The impure  
spirit shook the man violently / and came out of him / with a shriek. /

<sup>27</sup> The people were all so amazed / that they asked each other, / “What  
is this? / A new teaching/ —and with authority! / He even gives orders  
to impure spirits / and they obey him.” / <sup>28</sup> News about him spread  
quickly/ over the whole region of Galilee. /

### ***Vocabulary***

1. **Amazed:** Surprised. They were so amazed that they could hardly believe him to be a carpenter from Nazareth.
2. **Shriek:** A loud and high scream.

### ***Questions***

1. When did Jesus move to Capernaum?
2. Who were his first chosen disciples?
3. What were two of the first acts of Jesus as a teacher?

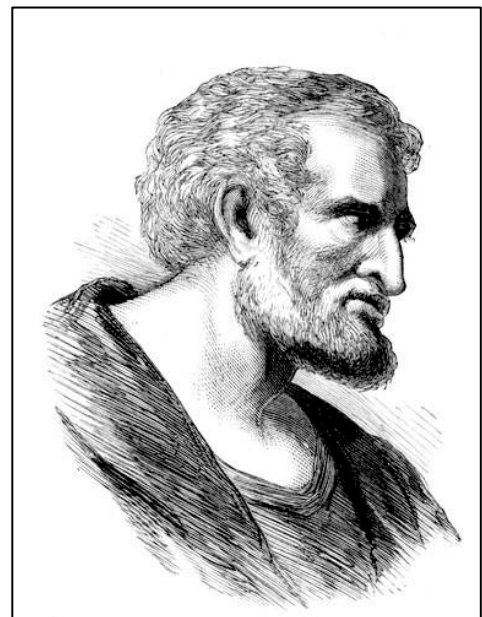
***Pronunciation: Practice reading and telling this story.***

Speak with authority. We call this power English. Both Jesus and John the Baptist spoke with authority.

Names are sometimes difficult: Jesus, Zebedee, and John. Sea of Galilee and Capernaum are place names.

***Notes***

1. When Jesus began his ministry, he moved to Capernaum, a fishing town along the Sea of Galilee. Fishing villages dotted the area around large body of water. Capernaum was also a headquarters for many Roman troops. There were many pagan influences. Jesus chose the place where he could challenge Jews and Gentiles with the forgiveness of God.
2. Jewish law, from about 450 BC said that any group of ten Jewish men could start a synagogue—a place for worship and school. The synagogue leader would often ask a passing rabbi to read scripture on a Saturday morning, the Jewish day of worship.
3. The crowds would go to Jesus after the sun set on the Sabbath.
4. Herod, the son of Herod the Great, had John the Baptist arrested and imprisoned. He was beheaded.



**Simon Peter**

5. Mark was present when the new church met at his mother's home in Jerusalem. He got his eye witness account from Simon Peter, the disciple of Jesus. Mark tells us stories that only Peter knew about.
6. Synoptic comes from two Greek words that mean *to see together*. Matthew, Luke and Mark are the three synoptic gospels. "Mark can be divided into 105 sections. Of these 93 occur in Matthew and 81 in Luke. Only 4 are not included either in Matthew or in Luke. ... Mark has 661 verses; Matthew has 1,068 verses; Luke has 1,149 verses. Of Mark's 661 verses, Matthew reproduces no fewer than 606. Sometimes he alters the wording slightly, but he even reproduces 51 per cent of mark's actual words. Of Mark's 661 verses Luke reproduces 320, and he actually uses 53 percent of Mark's actual words. Of the 55 verses of Mark, which Matthew does not reproduce, 31 are found in Luke. So the result is that there are only 24 verses in Mark which do not occur somewhere in Matthew and Luke. This makes it look very like as if Matthew and Luke were using Mark as the basis of their gospels." (William Barclay, *The Gospel of Mark*. The Daily Bible Study Series.)
7. The Ancient world truly believed in Demons. They saw them everywhere. There was a demon for heart trouble, for leprosy, one for blindness, etc. This was the world that Jesus knew. We do not understand it, but Jesus was a healer and he healed people. The people believed often because he healed them.