

Mark Part 31 - "Working with Jesus" (11-23-25)

Main Text: Mark chapter 16:14-20 (parallels: Matthew chapter 28, Luke chapter 24, John chapters 20-21)

Introduction: Jesus' final instructions to His Disciples before His ascension

Mark 16:14-20 (ESV)

[14] Afterward he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. [15] And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. [16] Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned. [17] And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; [18] they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover." [19] So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. [20] And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.

1) Purpose

Mark 16:14-16 (ESV)

[14] Afterward he appeared to the eleven themselves as they were reclining at table, and he rebuked them for their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they had not believed those who saw him after he had risen. [15] And he said to them, "Go into all the world and proclaim the gospel to the whole creation. [16] Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved, but whoever does not believe will be condemned.

Note: After all Jesus has said and done, he is now passing along the Good News to be shared . . .

- Go and Proclaim - Live as Pilgrim Witnesses
- Good News - share with all the world, to the whole creation
- Believe and Baptize - Faith which leads to a new life in Christ (light and life)
- Unbelieving remain condemned - Unbelief that keeps us condemned (dark and dead)

John 3:16-18 (ESV)

[16] "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. [17] For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. [18] Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe is condemned already, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God.

Application: Live on Purpose in Public - sharing Good News that leads to Belief & Baptism! (Share Example)

2) Power

Mark 16:17-18 (ESV)

[17] And these signs will accompany those who believe: in my name they will cast out demons; they will speak in new tongues; [18] they will pick up serpents with their hands; and if they drink any deadly poison, it will not hurt them; they will lay their hands on the sick, and they will recover."

Note: Accompanying signs - For who? The disciples? For . . . "Those who believe" (vs. 17)

- **Accompany** (follow) - to follow close, to always be at one's side, to follow after
- **Authority** - in my name (It's Jesus power and authority not my own)
- **The Signs** (what we have seen Jesus doing throughout his ministry):

Protection - serpents, poison

Power for ministry - bringing freedom, healing, speaking with power

***New Tongues:** prayer language, previously unlearned human language, with prophetic interpretation

3) Presence

Mark 16:19-20 (ESV)

[19] So then the Lord Jesus, after he had spoken to them, was taken up into heaven and sat down at the right hand of God. [20] And they went out and preached everywhere, while the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by accompanying signs.

Note: They went and did it! How? By Jesus' power, with His Presence . . .

Jesus sits at the right hand of God - the seat of power and authority (interceding for us) . . .

Romans 8:34 (ESV)

Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Hebrews 7:25 (ESV)

Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

So the disciples (and now us too) function in **Purpose** and **Power**, by the **Presence** of God with us . . .

Example: Peter at Pentecost

Acts 2:32-33 (ESV)

[32] This Jesus God raised up, and of that we all are witnesses. [33] Being therefore exalted at the right hand of God, and having received from the Father the promise of the Holy Spirit, he has poured out this that you yourselves are seeing and hearing.

Note: The Presence of the Holy Spirit is essential, and its the gift that is poured out for all who believe . . .

Acts 2:37-39 (ESV)

[37] Now when they heard this they were cut to the heart, and said to Peter and the rest of the apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?" [38] And Peter said to them, "Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins, and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. [39] For the promise is for you and for your children and for all who are far off, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to himself."

Note: This includes us - "all who are far off"

Conclusion: Let's live with **Purpose**, sharing the Good News in **Power**, relying upon the **Presence** of God

Mark 1:15-18 (ESV)

[15] and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel." [16] Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. [17] And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men." [18] And immediately they left their nets and followed him.