

Sermon Growth Guide

June 23, 2024

Rest for the Weary - Rest Through Allegiance

Mark 3:20-34

Key Verse: Mark 3:24.

If a kingdom is divided against itself, that kingdom cannot stand.

Big Idea: Rest comes through allegiance.



rest for the weary

Foundations

Rest for the Weary. Jesus promises us rest. Rest today. Yes, absolutely. Today, we ought to be known by the world as a people whose souls are full of rest, undivided in their allegiance and fully nourished to live fully alive. Today, we are fed with a passage where Jesus is accused of being false. Jesus' own family, and Jesus' own national 'pastors' want Jesus silenced. His message is getting too radical. His allegiance to the "will of the Father" too extreme. Jesus is not going along with the patterns of his culture. One of the most precious pieces of thought in today's Scripture surely must be in verse 27: "No one can enter a strong man's house without first tying him up. Then he can plunder the strong man's house." Jesus is showing his cards. A great foreshadow, that directly aligns with the ancient prophecies, unfolds here as Jesus responds to his accusers. There is a strong man, Satan, who is destroying people's souls. But there is a stronger man. Jesus, the binder of the strong man has come. Jesus has come to set the captives free. And he is showing us how to live undivided lives. Spend time catching up with one another. Joys and sorrows. Hopes and dreams. Pray for one another. Pray that you understand this Scripture better and that the Holy Spirit empowers you to put it into practice.

Understanding God's Word

Together, read Mark 3:20-34. What do the religious leaders accuse Jesus of in verse 22? In verse 31, Jesus' family arrives. If you were in this position, how would it make you feel? How might you be tempted to respond differently than Jesus? What might this mean for today?

Applying God's Word

Rest comes through allegiance. Jesus shows us what an undivided life looks like. He sets us free to live for God alone. What will it look like for your life to become even more undivided? Today Michael charged us to perform a soul allegiance inventory. Where is your will pure and whole, aligned with the will of the Father? Where is it not? Discern a practical next step to live more undivided for God's will alone.

Witnessing God's Word

Imagine your friendships with yet-believers as you live an even more integrated life, living for God and God alone. How will these relationships be more challenging? How might your witness be even more clear?