

Studies in Mark

Lesson Three: Conflict and Controversy (Mk. 2:1-3:12)

Warm-Up: How is church leadership potential identified during periods of conflict? (cf. 1 Cor. 11:19).

1. **What areas of conflict arose between Jesus and the scribes and Pharisees? (Mk. 2:1-3:12).**
2. **How can faith be seen? (2 Cor. 5:7 cf. Jas. 2:18). How did the four friends of the paralytic demonstrate love and faith? What practical applications can be made? (Mk. 2:1-4).**
3. **How did the healing of the paralytic prove the deity of Jesus? (Mk. 2:5-13).**
4. **What does Jesus' invitation to Levi (Matthew) tell us about the qualifications needed for discipleship? (Mk. 2:14-15; 1 Cor. 1:26-29).**
5. **When does "guilt by association" become a legitimate concern? (Ex. 23:2; 2 Cor. 6:14, 17). Why did Jesus risk this accusation? (Mk. 2:16-17).**
6. **In what three ways did Jesus illustrate the fact that fasting was inappropriate for His disciples? (Mk. 2:18-22). What indications did He give that this was a temporary rather than a permanent situation? (Mk. 2:20 cf. Acts 13:2-3).**
7. **In your opinion, why had such matters as Sabbath Day observance become such sources of heated controversy throughout the earthly ministry of Christ? (Mk. 2:23-28; Mt. 23:23).**
8. **How did the Pharisees reveal the hardness of their hearts when Jesus entered the synagogue and encountered the man with a withered hand? How did Jesus feel about their stubbornness of heart? How does He feel about ours? (Mk. 3:1-6).**
9. **What words best describe the early ministry of Jesus? (Mk. 3:7-12).**