

SERMON TRANSCRIPT



May 8, 2022

“Take Jesus Home With You”

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I'm gonna take an opportunity just to say my mother's probably watching this from Florida and happy mother's day mother. I love you and uh not just because the Bible tells me I'm supposed to. I actually really love you, so I'm pretty excited to be able to chat with her a little bit later and wish her happy mother's day. Great to see y'all today. ,

We've been studying the book of Mark and last week I left and I was thinking, you know that must have been a great synagogue that they had. I don't know if you remember last week when we what we talked about in the book of Mark there was this, uh Jesus went into the synagogue and when he goes to the synagogue remember they were used to pastors and not pastors but synagogue scribes that would that would basically use precedent on how they would so they were like judges the way they would teach they'd say, well so and so a long time ago said this and so and so said this and so and so said this so nobody had anything original. It was always like piggybacking off something somebody else said and Jesus shows up on a Saturday. They got up in the morning right? Ready to go, to ready to go on the sabbath ready to go to synagogue these folks get ready to go to church you know they combed their hair, brushed their teeth, went to church ready to go expecting it's going to be just like every other Sunday where the guy's up like an attorney talking. There's this young guy; he's like 30 years old that they've never seen before. He's a brand new teacher. Nobody's ever heard him before and this guy gets up there and he's preaching with authority he's preaching like he knows all this stuff on his own. He's not like a lawyer counting how they had you know guy other people had said all the time he's not quoting other people he's talking from like, God himself and these people are just, their tongues fall out on the ground they're like you got to be kidding me and they're just lapping it up.

They can't believe that this guy is speaking like this. If that wasn't enough that to jump out of their skin, this is incredible, they're so freaking out this is great. I've never heard anybody talk like this before. Then something else happens in the church service that really freaks people out. A guy over in the side over in the pew over there is demon possessed in the middle of the church service and this guy pops up and he says Jesus of Nazareth listen, I know who you really are is basically what's going on I know who you really are he says this is the Holy One of God. A demon is there and Jesus scolds him like he's like he's a little kid. Scolds the demon like a little kid like a kid about to get a spanking and says shut up. Shut up and get out and it gets out. He leaves the demon, obeys this guy and the people leave church that day, right? They get up out of church and they're like you got to be kidding me.

They drive home. They don't drive home they don't got no cars right but they're on their way home a drive home yeah here's a nice car the driving home and they and they get there they're in the driveway right they don't have no driveway but you know what I mean they're in the driveway and they're standing there and the neighbors out there and they can't keep them you aren't gonna believe what happened at church today. It was incredible. First of all this guy preached and he was talking about this. He was talking about that and I never heard anybody speak like this guy and then the kicker. There was a demon-possessed guy and he was in there and he just talked to the demon. He scolded him like he was like a like a three-year-old child and the demon picked up and left and he told the demon to be quiet it was incredible and they're freaking out so when they leave when Jesus leaves church and when he's with his four disciples that's all he's got now when they leave church that Saturday morning at about noon they're on high right?

The disciples, they are excited about church. When's the last time that's happened? You got up out of church and you said boy I can't wait to go back I wish we could go back tomorrow because no telling what this guy

would do tomorrow. No telling. I'll go every day if I'm going to get to see this and see all kinds of miraculous things happening! They're excited, they're so pumped up and what do you do after church? It's biblical it's right here after church what are you supposed to do you're supposed to go eat lunch you're supposed to go eat lunch. Now some people go out to eat a lunch. Some people just they invite somebody from the church over to their house and they have a meal. Well the closest house to here, right the closest by the synagogue is Peter's house.

Actually, I think I got a map. Throw the map up here and I'll show you okay so that space age thing there on the top, that's not Peter's house. Okay that's actually the church that's built on top of Peter's house Peter had a nice house. That's the foundation. All those ruins there, that's the foundation they've built a church on top of that and he's got like uh a beautiful view of the sea of Galilee and we'll give you a little distance, throw the other one up there Coop Dog. The synagogue that we're at is right there. Synagogue ruins and there's Peter's house right there, so it's less than a football field away from church to get to Peter's house and then look they're right on the sea of Galilee, I kind of like the real estate he's got. It's a good investment. I think he's done pretty good on how he's doing that but people are talking man. People are talking after that and they pick up and they're all going. They don't know what's going on after church. They know what's been going on at the house.

Likely, he doesn't know what's happening at Peter's house Peter doesn't know what's going on there. He's Simon at the time. That's his name and they're going to go home they're going to go have a meal and normally who cooks the meal at home? Who cooks the meal at home? Mom right? Mom cooks the meal and in this case it's going to be the oldest woman in the house and it's considered in that time an honor.

It's an honor right? it's an honor for them to be able to do this and so let's open up to Mark and see what happens from here and we're gonna open up to Mark chapter 1 verse 29. Let's pop in, it says as soon as they left the synagogue. See they picked up they left the synagogue and man they're pumped right? They're ready to go! They're excited they can't believe this and they're talking to Jesus, I can't believe you did that how did you do that? Jesus, how did you do that? how did you know all that stuff? how did you? All these questions and they're going back and forth hey can you tell me . . .

As soon as they left the synagogue they went with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew so we found out Andrew Simon's brother lives with him. Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever and they immediately told Jesus about her.

Now having a fever back then was pretty serious and this wasn't like a normal fever if you read this in the original language this is like a very high fever it's uh, people in Galilee still get this fever and it's really, it can be really be serious especially because they don't have Tylenol. They didn't have Tylenol right they didn't have things to bring the fever down. They just have to throw you in a bucket of cold water or something. They're trying to cool you down. put something on you. but it could be really serious. people died from fever like this and I don't think that Peter knew that his mother-in-law was sick if I have somebody at my house okay I'll just tell you this if somebody at my house is sick and I invite people over after church to the house my wife wants to beat me with a stick for inviting somebody over to the house. When Cooper's sick or when she's sick she doesn't want to deal with that. I don't think Peter probably knew that she was sick, but they get there and immediately find out that the mother-in-law is sick she's the one who would normally be preparing this meal she would want to prepare this meal this is kind of an honor for her after a Sunday. She would have that right to do that and now she can't and she's sick and so let's keep going and see what happens here it says. . .

So he went to her took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. Let's go back. It says she was in bed with a fever. They immediately told Jesus about it.

So there's something wrong in the house there's something going on in the house something wrong some problem. It's a problem that they can't fix and what they do is they immediately tell Jesus about it. I think that's important. I think that's really important. Today we call that intercession. We have something going on in our life something's a struggle. Something that that we're nervous about. Something we're not happy about. Something that's a struggle for us and what the disciples do is they say I know somebody who could fix this. We just saw his power we just saw the authority that he had with the demon we saw the authority he had over the word and now this fever has authority over my mother-in-law.

But I know that God has authority over the fever. This whole thing's about authority. It's authority on speaking. Who has authority? Who's in charge? Who is really in charge here and what it's saying here is we know that Jesus is in charge. We know that he has the authority over this fever this fever has come over my mother-in-law and says I'm in charge of you and I'm going to rule you and he said no, Jesus and so they intercede and they come to Jesus with their problems say hey Jesus we're not telling you what to do we just want you to know it just says we want you to know she's sick we want you to know she's got a fever when we pray we don't necessarily have to tell God what to do okay?

You get cancer. You get diagnosed with cancer. God I have cancer. This is what I'd like to happen. This is the outcome that seems the most favorable to me, but God you have authority, I'm telling you the problem. Telling you the problem. That's what he does. They don't ask him to heal her, they don't do any of that. Just here's the problem and they bring it out.

It's interesting to me I think that Simon has a mother-in-law. Simon's got a mother you know because a lot of people would say well Simon didn't have a wife. Most of the disciples had wives right? I've got some scripture for it to show that if you've got your bible 1st Corinthians chapter nine verse five, this is Paul talking and he says don't we have the right to have a believing wife along with us as do the other disciples and the Lord's brothers and Cephas talking about Peter. It seems to indicate to me that Peter's wife is still alive. He's married, has a wife. It goes on it says in first timothy 4 1 it says the spirit clearly says that in times later times some will abandon the faith and follow deceiving spirits and things taught by demons such teachings come through hypocritical liars who, whose conscience has been seared as with a hot iron they forbid people to marry and order them to abstain from certain foods which God created to receive uh to be received with thanksgiving by those who believe and who know the truth what's to say.

And it's saying he's saying, listen you should be able to marry. Why? Because marriage is good, there shouldn't be people going out and saying oh certain people can't get married and I'm not trying to pick on anybody but you know the first pope was supposed to be Peter. Peter's the first pope and yet the pope is supposed to be celibate. Explain that to me. Why is that? Why is it that the pope is supposed to be celibate when it clearly says here you shouldn't be restricting people from being able to be married and that Peter himself had a wife. Peter had a wife.

So let's keep going, we'll keep going I don't want to get into too much trouble because people start throwing things at me. verse 31. It happens it happens right it happens all the time no not all the time.

Verse 31, it says so he went to her took her hand and helped her up that is beautiful he took her hand and helped her up. You know Jesus never when he cast out a demon he never goes up to somebody that's demon-possessed and look for this go in your bible and look for this you'll never find him go to a demon-possessed person and touch them Mark and Matthew and Luke they always treat demon possession different than they deal with healing.

Jesus does a lot of touching when he heals people when he's talking to a demon it's not something that's loving he's talking to the demon he's not loving he's just you know get out you're disrupting my ability to love people. Okay? So it's interesting to me how Jesus does this, he sits he comes up to people and he touches them.

He touches . We live in a kind of a litigious society now so people aren't supposed to touch anybody like oh don't touch me right, if you touch me then then I'm gonna sue you for touching me. It's like well, you know all right, Well I guess you have to sue me because Jesus touched people, not inappropriately, he comes up he touches because touch is important you know.

Jesus didn't have to come to earth to talk to us, but he did have to come to earth to get so close to you because he loves you so much he wants to get so close to you that he can touch you. That's why he came. That's why he's so close. He's so close because he wants to touch us. He wants to be close to us and he comes down and this is how he shows love when he comes down and he just picks her up he grabs her by the hand. I love that the hand of God touching the hand of a sinful woman. We're all sinners right. The hand of God, the holy hand of God that created the world you've got a lady that's sick she's unclean because she's sick right and the hand of God is so unafraid of that unafraid of defilement that he comes down, the very hand of God touches. Can you imagine being touched by God in that way. Wow! That's pretty cool that's pretty cool.

We'll keep going, it says that evening after sunset the people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon possessed. Okay what just happened? What just happened? Why after sunset? Why? Sabbath day, the sabbath day Saturday. When does the sabbath start anybody know when the sabbath starts sabbath starts? On Friday when the sun goes down. Okay the sabbath ends the next day on Saturday when the sun goes down. Sunset to sunset, so synagogue happened in the morning probably around eight or nine in the morning right and it went until about noon and there was all kinds of commotion and people are jazzed and they're excited and they can't wait they're here and people are in their driveway and they're talking about what Jesus did. People are out and back and they're climbing over the fence and they're like hey you aren't gonna believe what happened today right because they can't go anywhere because it's the sabbath day. They can't walk very far they can't walk more than a half a mile because the rules have said you can't go any further than that.

Let me see if I even have the verse in exodus chapter 16 verse 29 it says bear in mind that the Lord has given you the sabbath. That is why on the on the sixth day he gives you bread for two days. This is when they were in the in the wilderness. Everyone is to stay where they are on the seventh day. No one is to go out and so the Jews have taken that and said well you can't leave your house you have to stay there you can't go any more a half a mile would be the most and so they find loopholes for this right? If you're going to be religious you find loopholes to get around your religious rules so one of the things they would do, I'll just kind of extra I'll give you this for free. What they would do is they would they would take a lunch, like a meal on Friday during the day okay and they would walk it a half a mile away from their house and then they would put it there and then they'd go back home and then the sabbath would come and they would walk a half mile, which was legally acceptable, but then they would grab the lunch. Now they've created a new abode a new home and now they can walk another half mile because they're only walking away from a half mile from this house. You do really dumb stuff when you're trying to get around the rules right?

This is how they would do this kind of stuff, but you've got all these people they're in their houses and they're just clamoring they want to see Jesus they want to go to him, They've got people that are sick in their houses, they've got people that they know they're demon-possessed they've got all kinds of needs and they're bursting at the seams and they can't go to Jesus because of religion!

They can't find Jesus because religion is restricting them from going to Jesus! You know how many people I've met who don't know Jesus because they're religious. You know how many people I've met who don't know Jesus because it's all about obeying rules, I'm in control, I'm going to obey these rules, I'm going to do these things, and because I'm in control it's going to happen.

Religion keeps people from knowing and loving Jesus and here is case in point. People can't leave their house and go to Jesus because they can't leave because of the sabbath rules and the sabbath was made for people the sabbath was made for Jesus. This is ridiculous and so they're just clamoring they're just clamoring they're just like they can't wait and they're watching the sun go down. It's like a clock right, it's like the ticker's going down and it's like five, four, three, and you see the sun going down. Everybody's like up against the starting line they're waiting by the door they're like I'm going to get to Jesus first. As soon as the sun goes down it's the most ridiculous thing ever like who's going to get there first and the sun goes you have to wait for three stars to show up. Three stars all right the sun's down. Oh crud. It's cloudy.

Right? You don't know what's going on it's like a nightmare but it goes on and here's what it says that evening after sunset people brought to Jesus all the sick and demon possessed, now this hyperbole, it's not like every person went to town says the whole town gathered at the door but they're just gathered everybody's like at Peter's house. Why is everybody at Peter's house people are coming to Peter's house to hear the good news to hear about Jesus why? Because Peter did something that you and I oftentimes don't do. He left church and brought Jesus with him.

He brought Jesus with him home. Sometimes what we do, we come here and we have Jesus here and then we pick up we hop in the car and we leave Jesus at church because we want to do what we want out there, we want to do what we want Monday through Saturday. Not Peter. Peter invites him home, his home base of ministry, your home base of ministry is home that's your home base. This isn't home base of ministry for me this isn't home base of ministry for you for anybody in this church. Home base for ministry is all of us are to take Jesus after church pick up go home take Jesus with you take him with you.

The whole town gathered at the door, verse 34 and Jesus healed many who had various diseases he also drove out many demons but he would not let the demons speak because they knew who he was now that's kind of an interesting thing there's been a lot of scholars that have talked a lot about that I'm not going to get into it a lot but there's what's called the messianic secret. There was a scholar quite a bit ago kind of a liberal scholar who had basically said that that Jesus would this was an excuse basically to say that Jesus wasn't the messiah because Jesus was keeping it a secret. It's kind of baloney. Don't listen to that kind of stuff. Jesus is just what he's doing here is he's like, if people know, if the demons are telling, him my ministry is going to blow up so fast I'll be dead before I can really accomplish all the things that I need to do. He's got a time. His time has not yet come so because his time has not had come according to the book of John, his time is now you come he he's slowly revealing who he is to build to this point and you don't want three years of ministry to be two weeks of ministry right because he's got a lot to accomplish and so he's telling demons, hey be quiet don't say anything that's what that's about.

Let's see verse 35. verse 35. Man, church was off the hook that day wow. People are like man, I can't wait to go back Jesus left church I've left church a few times where I'm like I get in the car my wife's in the car and we're leaving church and most of the time it's like boy I was off today or you know it was all right some sometimes like oh I had a great conversation with so and so sometimes you know different things every once in a while though you'll leave church and you're like man that was off the hook that was incredible that was good. Boy I'll tell you what, God showed up and you're like that's what's happening here. That day was phenomenal. That Saturday, this is a huge. Saturday Jesus first real preaching and demon possession exorcising and all that and he picks up

and everybody's just excited and then you go home. This is what happens. You have a day like that and you go home okay you get home and you kind of just let your guard down. You let everything down and I've found in 25 years of ministry that's a really scary place to be when you have a great Sunday. Watch out when you have a great summer camp you're at summer camp and everybody's having a great time you come back and kids were getting saved and you get back and you're like, woohoo and then you get home and you just need to rest because you're tired from all that and you need to rest and you're like and as soon as you rest, the devil says all right you know what you're safe now look at all the great things that happen you can indulge in this, you can indulge in that. You can do whatever you want.

So yesterday I'm going to sleep a little late and just enjoy. Jesus had an incredible ministry day verse 35. Very early in the morning while it was still dark. Come on Jesus. Really? It's still dark Jesus, got up left the house right he didn't even go into the other room he didn't go into the living room he didn't grab a bible and have some cheerios he picked up and left the house. He wants to be out in nature he wants to be out and about he wants to be out under the stars he wants to be out he went off to a solitary place where he prayed. He goes off by himself quietly.

Any of you like cameras? Any of you ever do any photography not the new kind of photography I'm talking old school photography like you probably don't even remember this but there used to be this thing called film and so you'd get a camera and they'd put film in the camera you don't know about this do you? Oh you do.

Okay well that's good all right, Jesse, you don't know about this there's this thing that used to be called film but anyway film is this thing you put in the camera, but you had to know how to do good photography and there's things called aperture right? You ever hear of aperture and then there's what's called exposure. So it's like how long the light can go in and attack the film right and then there's how much you let in like how small but exposure is really important. Exposure is really important because if you don't have enough exposure you don't get an image you just don't get an image. Nothing shows up if you don't have any exposure it's just black there's nothing.

But if some people their exposure they will allow the thing to be open for like a couple of seconds depending on what it is a couple of seconds maybe five seconds maybe ten seconds maybe if it's something where nothing's moving and they want just a really crisp beautiful they'll just expose themselves to this so that that image of that thing is just ingrained on that film. The more exposure you have to God the more just sitting not even talking man just sitting and being exposed to God just allowing that exposure just the more time you're just there the more his image is ingrained on you and the more you become like Jesus the more you're in Jesus presence the more exposure you have to him the more you become like Jesus.

And for Jesus it was a great day but I need exposure to the Father. I just need to be exposed to the Father because I need to be with him and this is Jesus. this is God himself we need to be exposed to God we need to spend time with God and not exposure with a lot of with a lot of other dust and things in the way a lot of a lot of distractions and a lot of music in the background and the kid crying and this not that kind of exposure I'm talking exposure solitary place.

Solitary place he's outside Simon the companions went to look for him and when they found him they exclaimed everyone's looking for you. Well of course everybody's looking for me, it was a banner day at the old synagogue yesterday and here at your house and everybody can't wait to come back and see you it was incredible everybody's loving this and the disciples are like all right let's keep it going let's keep it going things are going good let's keep it going all right we get we do more today and here we go Capernaum is just off the hook everything is going it's fantastic let's keep this thing rolling Jesus and Jesus you're wasting time over here out by yourself what are you doing there's people need to get healed there's people demon possessed and the crowds

people are starting to talk Jesus people are starting to talk let's make this thing we got to take this to the next level Jesus. Jesus was praying, Father what do I do? What's the next thing I should do?

Jesus replied let us go somewhere else? Come on Jesus ! What are you talking about, go somewhere else this is where all the actions is this. This is what we want. This is our hometown you called us to follow you yeah you need to follow me wherever I go. Well I thought when you said follow me you just meant here in Capernaum. I didn't know that you meant anywhere else. No see, I'm not here for demon possession and exorcism, I'm here to preach. That's what Jesus is about Jesus. Jesus is never here about healing. His whole purpose is not about healing, it's not about miracles. Those are to validate his preaching. it's always about preaching. As a matter of fact, if you go to a church or you watch somebody on tv and their ministry is primarily about miracles. Suspect, it's very suspect because that wasn't what Jesus came to do. Jesus was. . I'll throw this into because, because I can um

Demons. Okay, we see a lot of this now where people are talking about a lot of demon possession and here's what I read in scripture because some of some people have asked me you know can I get demon possessed now right? What if I do something and I accidentally get involved, could I be filled with a demon can I?

Okay, possibly, but here's the deal. We very rarely ever see demon possession in the Old Testament, I mean I'm trying to think of somebody who was actually demon-possessed, there's been influence on people in the Old Testament. Jesus shows up and there's not a whole lot of it until Jesus starts his ministry and then all of a sudden it's everywhere there's demon possession all over and Jesus is it's like all of a sudden God showed up in the devil's house and the devil is using this. There's a little bit of exorcism that happens in the book of Acts. Okay, a little bit in the book of Acts by the apostles you read the letters, there's none there is no demon possession later than that. Does that mean that there's no such thing as demon position? I'm not saying that. What I'm saying is that especially in places like uh countries where there's uh like small countries or countries where there's not a lot of uh industry and maybe where it's a little I think there's quite a bit there's probably quite a bit more of it in that places that's not even in my experience dealing with God and dealing with the devil I've not known that to be his strategy to be overt and blunt and take over somebody's body and say you don't have free will now to make right choices. I have not seen that as the strategy that the devil uses to take over and possess people. What I have found is that the Devil is subtle. De doesn't want you to know that he's involved in what's going on. He wants you to think that you're in control and he doesn't reveal himself to be involved at all. That's the way the devil works and so when we put all kinds of emphasis on things like miracles and on things like demon possession, like I said I'm not saying that demon possession isn't possible or that demon possession doesn't happen now. I'm saying that it's very far and few between and I think when you start labeling stuff and say well this person has the demon of alcoholism, this person has the demon of uh of infidelity, this person's got the demon of this and you start labeling every sin that you are making a choice to make and saying well they don't have any control over it because the devil made you do, it I think that's ridiculous. I think it's ridiculous okay. Can we be possessed? Yes, but I also don't believe that a person that is filled with the Holy Spirit can be possessed at all and I think it rarely happens nowadays especially in this area of the world.

Okay, I don't know why I even told you that. I guess I had nothing else to say. Jesus replied, let us go somewhere else to the nearby village so I can preach there also that is why I came why did he come to preach tell people about the kingdom of God so he traveled throughout galilee preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons he's preaching first the driving out demons what's that about the demons are all freaked out right now because the son of God is on earth and they're wiggling out and they're doing all kinds of stuff to they don't know what they just don't know what to do they're freaking out right and they're possessing people and they're showing their power they're showing their authority and the and he's just shown his authority right back and saying get out of these people get out of these people get out of these people.

I think there's some good things in here some good things in here what I want to encourage us to do. I'm going to have Jeff come up here he's going to lead us in a final reading. We're going to read it together.

Here's my point today. All this ministry happened at his house because Peter brought Jesus home from church.

I think if we're gonna really be a great church that's really effective reaching people with the gospel because that's our goal here, reaching people with the gospel, ministering to people, loving people. You don't do that on your own, you come to church, you get filled up and then the ministry week starts. Okay, church training ground for Monday. The ministry starts and it starts at home because we took Jesus home.

I encourage you to pick up out of here today, bring Jesus with you. Bring what you learn here with Jesus bring the encouragement that you get from each other, bring the prayer bring all that and go out of here and serve Jesus, love Jesus, serve people, bring Jesus with you into the world okay? Bring him with you into the world.