

Each of the Gospels presents Jesus from a different perspective and in a different light. Matthew presents Jesus as a teacher, Luke presents him as a prophet and John presents him as the divine logos of God. All are true, but all are different in their emphases.

1. From what you know of Mark, what would you say Mark's emphasis is in how this Gospel presents Jesus?
2. Mark was known as the forgotten Gospel for centuries in the church's history. Why might this Gospel have been neglected?
3. What do you find interesting about the Gospel of Mark?

While Jesus does numerous healings in Mark, Jesus also does numerous exorcisms. In fact, the first wonder or mighty work that Jesus performs in Mark is an exorcism.

4. What do you think Jesus means when he refers to "binding up the strong man?"
5. Why do you think Mark chose to highlight Jesus' role as an exorcist? What might Mark be trying to tell us about who Jesus is and what Jesus does in our lives?
6. What do you believe about evil spirits?
7. How have you seen God work to bind up evil in our world?
8. How have you seen God work to bind up evil in your life?

### **Questions for families with children:**

1. What do you think the word "evil" means? How would you define it?
2. What does it mean to you that Jesus wants to get rid of evil in the world and in your life?

### **Weekly Bible Readings:**

January 19: Mark 5:1-13

January 20: Mark 5:21-24

January 21: Mark 5:25-34

January 22: Mark 5:35-43

January 23: Mark 6:1-6

January 24: Mark 6:7-13

January 25: Mark 6:14-29

### **Passage for Sunday, January 26:**

Romans 8:14-17 (Marilyn Borst preaching)