

# **EXPERIENCE THE WORD**

**Today we will be taking time to practice what we have been learning. On the next page, you will find the outline for the SOAP method. You will complete this outline as prompted throughout the activity. You may want to grab a piece of paper to write on if you don't have a printer.**

**There are a total of 4 steps that build on one another to bring you a more rich experience.**

**Take your time! Do not rush through this activity. Let this study move you closer to God and help your heart to know Him more.**

# Scripture Observation Application Prayer

**S - Mark 1:21-45**

**O -**

**A -**

**P -**

# **STEP 1: READ THE WORD**

## **Mark 1:21-45 CSB**

**21 They went into Capernaum, and right away he entered the synagogues on the Sabbath and began to teach. 22 They were astonished at his teaching because he was teaching them as one who had authority, and not like the scribes. 23 Just then a man with an unclean spirit was in their synagogue. He cried out, 24 “What do you have to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us?**

**I know who you are—the Holy One of God!”**

**25 Jesus rebuked him saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” 26 And the unclean spirit threw him into convulsions, shouted with a loud voice, and came out of him. 27 They were all amazed, and so they began to ask each other, “What is this? A new teaching with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” 28 At once the news about him spread throughout the entire vicinity of Galilee. 29 As soon as they left the synagogue, they went into Simon and Andrew’s house with James and John. 30 Simon’s mother-in-law was lying in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. 31 So he went to her, took her by the hand, and raised her up. The fever left her, and she began to serve them.**

**32** When evening came, after the sun had set, they brought to him all those who were sick and demon-possessed. **33** The whole town was assembled at the door, **34** and he healed many who were sick with various diseases and drove out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

**35** Very early in the morning, while it was still dark, he got up, went out, and made his way to a deserted place; and there he was praying. **36** Simon and his companions searched for him, **37** and when they found him they said, "Everyone is looking for you." **38** And he said to them, "Let's go on to the neighboring villages so that I may preach there too. This is why I have come."

**39** He went into all of Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons. **40** Then a man with leprosy came to him and, on his knees, begged him, "If you are willing, you can make me clean." **41** Moved with compassion, Jesus reached out his hand and touched him. "I am willing," he told him. "Be made clean." **42** Immediately the leprosy left him, and he was made clean. **43** Then he sternly warned him and sent him away at once, **44** telling him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go and show yourself to the priest, and offer what Moses commanded for your cleansing, as a testimony to them." **45** Yet he went out and began to proclaim it widely and to spread the news, with the result that Jesus could no longer enter a town openly. But he was out in deserted places, and they came to him from everywhere.

**NOW, SPEAK THE WORD!**

**Read the passage out loud**

# **STEP 2: STUDY THE WORD**

**Try one or more of the following:**

- 1. Read the passage in one or more different versions**
- 2. Look the passage up in your Bible or app. Read the notes associated with this passage.**
- 3. Go to biblehub.com and read a commentary on this passage**
- 4. Use the Greek interlinear Bible on biblehub.com**

**Write a few observations under the 'O' on your SOAP page**

**We have provided a copy of the Barnes Notes Commentary for your convenience. This was found on biblehub.com  
Feel free to pick just a few verses to study, as the commentary is 10 pages long.**

## Barnes Notes Commentary:

Mark 1:21

And they went into Capernaum; and straightway on the sabbath day he entered into the synagogue, and taught.

See also Luke 4:31-37.

Mark 1:21

And they went into Capernaum - For the situation of Capernaum see the notes at Matthew 4:13.

Straightway - Immediately. On the following Sabbath.

The synagogue - See the notes at Matthew 4:23.

And taught - In the synagogue, the presiding elder, after reading the Scriptures, invited anyone who chose to address the people, Acts 13:15. Though our Saviour was not a "priest" of the Levitical order or an "officer" of the synagogue, yet we find him often availing himself of this privilege, and delivering his doctrines to the Jews.

Mark 1:22

And they were astonished at his doctrine: for he taught them as one that had authority, and not as the scribes.

He taught them as one that had authority ... - See the notes at Matthew 7:29.

Mark 1:23

And there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out,

A man with an unclean spirit - See Matthew 4:24. It is probable that this man had lucid intervals, or he would not have been admitted into the synagogue. When there, one of his fits came on, and he suddenly cried out.

## Barnes Notes Commentary:

Mark 1:24

Saying, Let us alone; what have we to do with thee, thou Jesus of Nazareth? art thou come to destroy us? I know thee who thou art, the Holy One of God.

Let us alone - Though only one impure spirit is mentioned as possessing this man, yet that spirit speaks also in the name of others.

They were leagued together in the work of evil, and this one knew that if he was punished, others would also share the same fate.

What have we to do with thee? - See the notes at Matthew 8:29. By this the spirit meant to say that, if Jesus cast him out, he would use an improper interference. But this was untrue. The possession of the man was a direct assault upon God and his works. Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil, and Jesus had a right, therefore, to liberate the captive, and to punish him who had possessed him. So Satan still considers it an infringement of his rights when God frees a "sinner" from bondage and destroys his influence over the soul. So he still asks to be let alone, and to be suffered to lead people captive at his will.

Art thou come to destroy us? - Implying that this could not be the intention of the "benevolent" Messiah; that to be cast out of that man would, in fact, be his destruction, and that therefore he might be suffered still to remain. Or it may imply, as in Matthew 8:29, that the time of their destruction had not come, and that he ought not to destroy them before that.

I know thee who thou art - Evil spirits seem to have been acquainted at once with the Messiah. Besides, they had learned from his miracles that he was the Messiah, and had power over them.

The Holy One of God - The Messiah. See Daniel 9:24. Jesus is called "the Holy One of God" because:

1. Jesus was eminently pure.
2. Because Jesus was the only begotten Son of God - equal with the Father. And,
3. Because Jesus was anointed (set apart) to the work of the Messiah, the mediator between God and man.



## Barnes Notes Commentary:

Mark 1:25

And Jesus rebuked him, saying, Hold thy peace, and come out of him.

And Jesus rebuked him - Chided him, or commanded him, with a threatening.

This was not the man that Jesus rebuked, but the spirit, for he instantly commanded the same being to come out of the man. In all this, Jesus did not once address the man. His conversation was with the evil spirit, proving conclusively that it was not a mere disease or mental derangement - for how could the Son of God hold converse with "disease" or "insanity?" - but that he conversed with a "being" who also conversed, reasoned, cavilled, felt, resisted, and knew him. There are, therefore, evil spirits, and those spirits have taken possession of human beings.

Hold thy peace - Greek, "Be muzzled." "Restrain thyself." "Cease from complaints, and come out of the man." This was a very signal proof of the power of Jesus, to be able by a word to silence an evil angel, and, against his will, to compel him to leave a man whom he delighted to torment.

Mark 1:26

And when the unclean spirit had torn him, and cried with a loud voice, he came out of him.

And when the unclean spirit ... - Still malignant, though doomed to obey - submitting because he was obliged to, not because he chose - he exerted his last power, inflicted all the pain he could, and then bowed to the Son of God and came out.

This is the nature of an evil disposition. Though compelled to obey, though prevented by the command and providence of God from doing what it "would," yet, in seeming to obey, it does all the ill it can, and makes even the appearance of obedience the occasion for increased crime and mischief.

## Barnes Notes Commentary:

Mark 1:27

And they were all amazed, insomuch that they questioned among themselves, saying, What thing is this? what new doctrine is this? for with authority commandeth he even the unclean spirits, and they do obey him.

And they were all amazed ... - The power of casting out devils was new to them.

It was done by a word. Jesus did it in his own name and by his own authority. This proved that he was superior to all the unclean spirits. In consequence, Jesus' fame spread throughout all the country, and the impression became prevalent that he was the Messiah.

Mark 1:28

And immediately his fame spread abroad throughout all the region round about Galilee.

Mark 1:29

And forthwith, when they were come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John.

See the notes at Matthew 8:14-15.

Mark 1:30

But Simon's wife's mother lay sick of a fever, and anon they tell him of her.

Mark 1:31

And he came and took her by the hand, and lifted her up; and immediately the fever left her, and she ministered unto them.

Mark 1:32

And at even, when the sun did set, they brought unto him all that were diseased, and them that were possessed with devils.

See the notes at Matthew 8:16-17.

And at even, when the sun did set - See the notes at Matthew 8:16.

## Barnes Notes Commentary:

Mark 1:33

And all the city was gathered together at the door.

All the city - A great part of the city. A great multitude from the city.

Mark 1:34

And he healed many that were sick of divers diseases, and cast out many devils; and suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him.

And suffered not the devils to speak, because they knew him - They knew that he was the Messiah.

If they had spoken, they would have made that known to the people. Jesus was not desirous at that time that that should be publicly known, or that his name should be blazoned abroad. The time had not come when he wished it to be promulgated that he was the Messiah, and he therefore imposed silence on the evil spirits.

## Barnes Notes Commentary:

Mark 1:35

And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed.

And in the morning, rising up a great while before day - Luke says Luke 4:42, "when it was day." The passage in Mark means, in the original, not literally "a great while before day," but very early, or while there was yet "much appearance of night." The place in Luke means "at daybreak," at the beginning of day. Then, also, there is much appearance of night; and Luke and Mark therefore refer to the same time before it was fully light, or just at daybreak.

And departed into a solitary place, and there prayed - Observe here:

1. that the Saviour, though perfectly holy, regarded the duty of secret prayer as of great importance.
2. that he, sought a solitary place for it - far away from the world and even from his disciples.
3. that it was early in the morning - always the best time, and a time when it should not be omitted.
4. if Jesus prayed, how much more important is it for us!

If Jesus did it in the morning, how much more important is it for us, before the world gets possession of our thoughts; before Satan fills us with unholy feelings; when we rise fresh from beds of repose, and while the world around us is still! David also thus prayed, Psalm 5:3; Psalm 119:147. He that wishes to enjoy religion will seek a place of secret prayer in the morning. If that is omitted, all will go wrong, our piety will wither. The world will fill our thoughts. Temptations will be strong. Through the day, we shall find it impossible to raise our feelings to a state of proper devotion. It will be found to be true universally, "that the religious enjoyment through the day will be according to the state of the heart in the morning, and can therefore be measured by our faithfulness in early secret prayer." How different, too, was the conduct of the Saviour from those who spend the precious hours of the morning in sleep! He knew the value of the morning hours; he rose while the world was still; he saw the light as it spread abroad in the east with fresh tokens of his Father's presence, and joined with the universal creation in offering praise to the everywhere present God.

## Barnes Notes Commentary:

Mark 1:36

And Simon and they that were with him followed after him.

And Simon - Simon Peter.

They that were with him - The other apostles.

Mark 1:37

And when they had found him, they said unto him, All men seek for thee.

All men seek for thee - That is, many men, or multitudes. The inquiry after him was general. They told him this, evidently, with a view to induce him to leave his place of retirement, and to prevail upon him to appear publicly to instruct the multitudes.

Mark 1:38

And he said unto them, Let us go into the next towns, that I may preach there also: for therefore came I forth.

And he said unto them ... - This was said in answer to their "implied" request that he would go and meet the multitudes. "Since the anxiety to hear the truth is so great, since such multitudes are waiting to hear the word, let us go into the next towns," etc.

Next towns - Towns in the neighborhood or vicinity of Capernaum. He proposed to carry the gospel to them, rather than that multitudes should leave their homes and attend him in his ministry. The word here rendered "towns" denotes places in size between "cities" and "villages," or large places, but without walls.

For therefore came I forth - That is, came forth from God, or was sent by God. Luke, says Luke 4:43, "for therefore am I sent." Compare John 16:28; "I came forth from the Father, and am come into the world." The meaning of this verse therefore is, "Since multitudes press to hear the word, let us not remain here, but go into the neighboring towns also: for I was sent by God not to preach at Capernaum only, but "throughout Judea," and it is therefore improper to confine my labors to this place."

## Barnes Notes Commentary:

Mark 1:39

And he preached in their synagogues throughout all Galilee, and cast out devils.

And he preached in their synagogues - See Matthew 4:23.

All Galilee - See Matthew 1:22.

And cast out devils - See Matthew 4:24.

## Barnes Notes Commentary:

Mark 1:40

And there came a leper to him, beseeching him, and kneeling down to him, and saying unto him, If thou wilt, thou canst make me clean.

And there came a leper ... - See the notes at Matthew 8:1-4.

Kneeling down to him - He kneeled and inclined his face to the ground, in token of deep humiliation and earnest entreaty. Compare Luke 5:12.

If thou wilt - This was an acknowledgment of the almighty power of Jesus, and an appeal to his benevolence.

Make me clean - You (Jesus) can heal me of this loathsome and offensive disease, in the eye of the law justly regarded as "unclean," and render me "legally" clean, and restore me to the privileges of the congregation.

And Jesus ...touched him - It was by the law considered as unclean to touch a leprous man. See Numbers 5:2. The fact that Jesus touched him was evidence that the requisite power had been already put forth to heal him; that Jesus regarded him as already clean.

I will - Here was a most manifest proof of his divine power. None but God can work a miracle; yet Jesus does it by his "own will" - by an exertion of his own power. Therefore, Jesus is divine.

See thou say nothing to any man - The law of Moses required that a man who was healed of the leprosy should be pronounced clean by the priest before he could be admitted again to the privileges of the congregation, Leviticus 14. Christ, though he had cleansed him, yet required him to be obedient to the law of the land - to go at once to the priest, and not to make delay by stopping to converse about his being healed. It was also possible that, if he did not go at once, evil-minded men would go before him and prejudice the priest, and prevent his declaring the healing to be thorough because it was done by Jesus. It was of further importance that "the priest" should pronounce it to be a genuine cure, that there might be no cavils among the Jews against its being a real miracle.

Offer for thy cleansing those things ... - Two birds, and cedar-wood, and scarlet, and hyssop; and after eight days, two he-lambs, without blemish, and one ewe-lamb, and fine flour, and oil, Leviticus 14:4, Leviticus 14:10.

For a testimony unto them - Not to the priest, but to the people, that they may have evidence that it is a real cure. The testimony of the priest on the subject would be decisive.

## Barnes Notes Commentary:

Mark 1:41

And Jesus, moved with compassion, put forth his hand, and touched him, and saith unto him, I will; be thou clean.

Mark 1:42

And as soon as he had spoken, immediately the leprosy departed from him, and he was cleansed.

Mark 1:43

And he straitly charged him, and forthwith sent him away;

Mark 1:44

And saith unto him, See thou say nothing to any man: but go thy way, shew thyself to the priest, and offer for thy cleansing those things which Moses commanded, for a testimony unto them.

Mark 1:45

But he went out, and began to publish it much, and to blaze abroad the matter, insomuch that Jesus could no more openly enter into the city, but was without in desert places: and they came to him from every quarter.

Began to publish it much - That is, he made known his own cure. He was so deeply affected with it, and so much rejoiced, that he followed the natural dictates of his own feelings rather than the command of the Saviour.

Jesus could no more enter openly into the city - The word "could," here, does not refer to any natural inability, or to any physical obstacle in his way, but only denotes that there was difficulty, inconvenience, or impropriety in his doing it then; that he judged it best not then to enter into the city. The difficulty was, probably, that his being in the city drew such crowds of people as rendered it difficult to accommodate them, or so as to excite the opposition of civil rulers.

The city - The city or large town where the leper was cured. The same reason for not entering that city applied also to others, so that he remained in the deserts, where the multitudes could come to him without any difficulty or opposition.



# STEP 3 - DELIGHT IN THE WORD

**Search the passage for things you can learn about God's character. Take a moment to worship Him based on what you have discovered in the Scriptures.**

**Here is an example:**

**Hebrews 4:14-16**

Therefore, since we have a **great high priest** who has passed through the heavens—**Jesus the Son of God**—let us hold fast to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who has been tempted in every way as we are, yet without sin. Therefore, let us approach the **throne of grace** with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help us in time of need.

He sympathizes with me

He is gracious

He is merciful

He helps us

# **TRY IT OUT!**

**Grab a piece of paper and write down what you've learned about God's character.**

**Consider drawing a picture or writing a poem as part of your worship to God.**

# **STEP 4:**

## **KNOW THE WORD**

**Pick a portion of the passage to memorize, even if it is just a phrase. Take the time to think about what it really means and why it is important to know this portion of the Bible.**

## **APPLY THE WORD**

**Look back over everything you've done so far. How can you apply this to your life? Write some things down under the 'A' on your SOAP page.**

# **PRAY THE WORD**

**Now that you have taken the time to read, speak, study, delight in, know, and apply the Word...**

**take some time to pray about what you've learned. Praise God for who you've learned He is. Ask God to help you as you strive to apply the Word to your daily life. Ask Him to reveal the meaning of things you don't understand from the passage.**

**Once you've spent time with God in prayer, write a short prayer in the 'P' section of your SOAP page to remind you what you spoke to God about today in regards to the Scripture that you read.**