Mark Lesson 1 – Jesus Serves with Authority  
May 9 – May10, 2013

I. WELCOME, 15 mins.
Plan one to two icebreakers for the purpose of mixing around and getting group participation or getting acquainted.

II. WORSHIP, 20 mins.
Prayerfully choose a few songs to lead people into God’s presence. During this time, cell leaders will encourage cell members to listen to the Holy Spirit and release the words of strengthening, encouragement, and comfort they have received for the cell group, the church and nations. Upon each word shared, the cell leader will lead members by thanking and praising God for His promise and/or praying aloud together for the needs, etc.

During this time, the cell leader will also lead the group to pray aloud for: (1) the mission organization or daughter church that the cell group adopts (2) the church ministry needs (3) blessings for new comers, the sick.

A. MISSION ORGANIZATION:________________, their needs:_______________  
(Please contact the church if you don’t know the needs of the mission organization.)

B. CHURCH MINISTRY:
• 5/12 Mothers Day Special Sunday  
• 5/19 & 5/26 Baptism Class @ 2:00- 5:00PM  
• 6/9 Water Baptism @ 1:30PM  
• 6/15 Men’s Breakfast with Pastor Cheng @ 9:00- 11:00AM

C. New comer: ________________ Identify new comers before cell meeting.  
Sick members, friends or relatives: ________________ Discuss how to show our cares.

III. WORD, 45 mins.
A. Sharing from last Sunday’s message.
1. What is the key message from last Sunday sermon? How God talks to you through the message?  
2. How would you respond to the message? What action will you take after listening to the message?

B. Discussion Topic: Jesus Serves with Authority

Scriptures: Mark 1: 1-39 (Please read Bible verses in turns)  
Memorizing Verse: Jesus replied, “Let us go somewhere else – to the nearby villages – so I can preach there also. That is why I have come.” So he traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and driving out demons.  
(Mark 1: 38-39)

The Four Gospels are about what Jesus said, did, and taught. Matthew presents Jesus as the King; Luke depicts Jesus as a compassionate savior; John emphasizes the heavenly attributes of Jesus; and Mark focuses on how Jesus serves, as the servant. By reading Mark, we can follow Jesus, walk with him, encounter with him, listen to how he talks, know better about him, learn to be like him and live like him. His 3 ½-year ministry vividly demonstrates “Create the Culture, Impact the Generation” in full scale. Jesus draws people to God so that they may receive the salvation mandated to them. Let’s experience the fullness of God and explore what he has in store for us.

1. John the Baptist prepared the way for Jesus and preached the good news of Heaven.  
(Mark 1: 1-15)  
1) The baptism of repentance by John the Baptist (he was preparing Jesus’ way) (1:1-8)  
   a) The prophecies of Isaiah and Malachi. b) Prepare the way for the Lord. c) John baptizes people with water, but Jesus baptizes people with the Holy Spirit.
2) Jesus got baptized, and was filled with Holy Spirit (1:9-13) – this is when the trinity of God all appeared at the same time.  
   a) “God the Father” said, “You are my Son, whom I love…”  
   b) The Spirit descending on “Jesus” and at once  
   c) “The Spirit” sent Jesus out into the wilderness to be tempted by Satan for 40 days.

As you can see, the book of Mark focuses on the work that Jesus has done. It did not record the heritage of Jesus, to say where he was born or tell his childhood stories. It gets to the point where Jesus receives Holy Spirit right from the beginning. After Jesus was tempted by Satan, he was entrusted with power and was able to kick off his ministry immediately – proclaiming the gospels and telling people to repent.

2. Jesus called his disciples (Mark 1:16-20)  
   Jesus called his disciples to preach the good news  
   1) He called Simon and his brother Andrew by saying, “Come, follow me, and I will send you out to fish for people.” At once they left their nets
and followed him.

2) He called James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. They left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Peter, James and John became the most intimate disciples to Jesus. They also played important roles in preaching gospels.

3. Jesus serves with authority (Mark1:21-39)
   1) Authority: The teaching of Jesus is with authority, not as the teachers of the law. (1:22). The source of this authority is from God Father. No matter how busy Jesus was, Jesus would get up very early in the morning, left the house and went off to a solitary place, where he prayed. (1:35)
   2) Mission: P (Preaching) H (Healing) D (Delivering)
      a) Preaching: Jesus taught in Capernaum and taught with authority (1:21)
      b) Healing: (1) Jesus healed the fever for Simon’s mother-in-law – Jesus took her hand and helped her up. The fever left her and she began to wait on them. (1:31) (2) Jesus can heal all sick. (1:32)
      c) Delivering: Jesus commanded the impure spirit to come out of human body, he also drove out the demon from the demon-possessed. (1:23 – 28, 32-33)

Jesus traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues, and driving out demons. (1:39). He 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. (1:34) News about him spread quickly over the whole region of Galilee, (1:28) yet Jesus kept preaching in different places. He advised people not telling the miracles he did.

Discuss:

1. Compare Mark to other gospels to see what the differences or similarities are.
2. Why did Jesus call his disciples to follow him in the first place?
3. Where did Jesus get his authority of preaching and ability of serving? How may we be getting the same authority and ability to serve God?
4. The main job for Jesus is preaching, healing and casting demons. What impact did these services bring to Jesus’ generation?
5. What can we do to imitate Jesus’ life and to impact our generation?

Prayer:

Dear Jesus, we thank you and we praise you! For you sent the good news from Heaven to us. You have come to this world in a human form and become one of us. You are willing to serve mankind as you were a servant. You even gave your life for our sins and got crucified on the cross to be our salvation. Likewise, we ought to be like you and be the servants to our brothers and sisters in Christ. We ought to make an impact to our neighbors, friends, family members, coworkers and our community. We pray that because of what we are willing to do, more people will be drawn to God. We pray that the heavenly culture may transform men’s hearts and to further influence the generation. Thank you Jesus, we pray in Jesus name. Amen!

IV. WORK (Pray for each other), 10 mins.

Please break into group of 2 or 3 to pray for each other’s needs.