

# **Jesus' Heart at Homecoming**

"Case For Christ" Series, (A Study of Mark's Gospel) part 18  
February 27th, 2022, Pastor Bob Johnson, GPC

## **Jesus' Passion and Mission:**

(Mark 6:1-2, Luke 4:16-19)

### **To extend God's love to ...**

- **the poor** **v18a**
- **the captives** **v18b**
- **the blind** **v18c**
- **the oppressed** **v18d**

### **Our partnership with "Bridge of Hope":**

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download our GPC app or follow us on Facebook or Youtube.**

## **This Week's Discussion Guide**

Welcome to our seventh week of our 12 week study and discussion based on our current Sunday series at GPC called, "Case For Christ".

In this series, we are slowly unpacking the Gospel of Mark. Each week we will read and reflect on a passage from Mark's gospel and discuss ways we can apply what we reflect on to our daily lives.

It is our prayer at GPC for our Sundays and small groups to provide the encouragement we all need to support each other as we desire to grow closer to God and build friendships as part of our vision at GPC to raise up committed Christ followers in a healthy church community.

### **Getting Started:**

Each week, we typically start out with a few fun questions to get us warmed up :).

In Mark 6:1-2, after being away from Nazareth for about eight months, Jesus returned to his hometown where he grew up.

Speaking of taking a trip back to your roots, where did you grow up?

How long has it been since you 'returned home'?

What was a pleasant memory that still lingers with you?

If you would ever go back there, what would you like to do that would be special or enjoyable?

Did you ever return for a homecoming or reunion? If so, how was it?

Who were your close friends growing up? What did you like to do together?

Turning our attention to how God desires to work in our lives, in Luke 4:18, one of the descriptions of Jesus' ministry was to 'proclaim liberty to the captives'.

What has Jesus Christ set you free from or have begun to set you free from?

Last Sunday's focus was on hearing about the Bridge of Hope ministry.

What encouraged you about what Sheri Briggs shared?

## **Reviewing and Reflecting on the Passage:**

Let's read the two key passages from last Sunday. (Mark 6:1-2, Luke 4:16-19)

After reading this passage and looking back on your notes from Sunday, was there a particular thought, verse or comment that caught your attention, challenged you or raised a question for you?

## **Digging Deeper:**

1. A major theme in Scripture is to care for the poor and those who are in need.

Let's read and reflect on the following passages and summarize what the main encouragement is from each of them.

Isaiah 58:6-8, Psalm 35:10, Psalm 82:3, Proverbs 14:31, Proverbs 19:17, Proverbs 31:8-9

2. Later on in our Mark study, we will unpack an interesting passage in Mark 14.

Since the focus of last Sunday was on helping the poor, let's jump ahead take a look at Mark 14:3-9 and discuss the truths that it reveals.

What did Jesus mean when he said, "The poor you will always have with you?"

What other statements stand out to you from this passage?

What are some applications for us today?

3. In last week's discussion, we looked at James 2:14-26 and how saving faith is more than mentally agreeing to certain truths about Jesus. The faith that Jesus invites us to have is faith that prompts us to live differently including serving others in practical ways.

Let's read again, James 2:15-17

So ... how can we put this passage into practice?

Is there a way our small group can be involved in the ministry of Bridge of Hope or another mission's ministry where we can team up and help out?

## **Wrapping Up:**

What is an application from what we read or discussed together that you would like to practice in the coming days?

Is there anything that came up from this week's sermon or discussion that you would like prayer for? Is there anything else on your heart that you would like to express prayer for?