

Nicknames of Jesus That Teach and Inspire

"Son of Adam" (Mark 2:1-12)

Intro: Nicknames that teach and inspire...

I. Context, Tone, and Background Information of the Text

a. A familiar story of Jesus healing a paralytic lowered through the ceiling (Mark 2:1-10)

b. Tone: Jesus takes things in an unexpected direction

- The crowd expects physical healing, and Jesus says "your sins are forgiven" (Mark 2:5)

- Jesus refers to Himself as "the Son of Adam" (Mark 2:10)

c. The meaning and the significance of the rabbinical expression regarding "Son of Adam"

- Genesis 4:1-10 the son of Adam = Abel, the first guy to die for doing the right thing

- Daniel 7:13-14, 17-18 what is the great expectation of the "Son of Adam?" To bring revenge!

II. How This Nickname Teaches and Inspires Gospel Hope

a. Jesus is saying "I am the ultimate example of one who was killed for being righteous" (this is good news for us "sons of Cain" who act on our jealousy and disobedient impulses) Hebrews 10:9-14, 1 Peter 2:21-24

b. Jesus is saying "there is something even more dynamic than a righteous one coming back with revenge, and it is a righteous one coming back with forgiveness" this is the part of the text/sermon we participate in

Conclusion and Summary: In this brief story Jesus raises: the uncomfortable doctrine of sin, the solution for it, and a demonstration of how to reduce its power in our lives

Growth Group Materials

and Individual Study and Reflection Questions

1. Have you or a friend ever been given a nickname that was endearing or encouraging? What was it?
2. Read Mark 2:1-12. Take your time, and be sure not to skip over any details.
 - what are the expected of familiar components of this story?
 - what are the details that are unexpected?
 - what does Jesus do or say that angers those who oppose Him?
3. There are people in the crowd (Mark 2:6-7) that become angry, even thinking that Jesus is a blasphemer (making false or profane claims about God). What is Jesus claiming that makes some in the crowd so angry?
4. Take a moment to contemplate that the Hebrew word for "man" is also the word for "Adam." Skim these significant Old Testament passages for clues on what Jesus means when He calls Himself the "son of man/Adam."
 - Genesis 4:1-10
 - Daniel 7:13-18
5. The Daniel passage indicates that many were expecting "a righteous one" (i.e. the Son of Adam) to return and bring revenge. What is Jesus saying the great righteous one will bring, instead?
6. Is God putting a situation in your mind where you are righteous (did the right thing) and suffered as a result? What would occur if you returned with revenge? What would occur if you returned with forgiveness?
7. Put all these ingredients together (healing, faith of the friends, Jesus bringing up the concept of forgiveness, something that upset the scribes). Give words to what you think Jesus is trying to teach about forgiveness, in this story: