

## **FALL SERIES in St Mark – “What Jesus Said”**

National Presbyterian Church, Washington, DC

David A. Renwick

November 20, 2016

1:15 TIME / REPENTANCE. The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe in the good news

2:5, 9 FORGIVENESS. Son, Your sins are forgiven. 9. Stand up, take your mat and walk

2:17 NEED OF HELP. Those who are well have no need of a physician; I have come not to call the righteous but sinners to repentance

3:33 COMMUNITY. Jesus asked: “Who are my mother and my brothers?”

9:40 COMMUNITY. Whoever is not against us is for us

10:14 COMMUNITY. Let the children come to me for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs

4:9 LISTENING. Jesus said: “Let anyone with ears to hear, listen.”

10:6 MARRIAGE. Jesus said: “From the beginning of creation God made them male and female”

10:7 MARRIAGE. For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife and the two will become one flesh.

9:23 PRAYER. All things can be done for him who believes

9:29 PRAYER. This kind can come out only by prayer

11:17 PRAYER. My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations

4:24 GENEROSITY. Jesus said: The measure you give will be the measure you get.”

10:20, 23 GENEROSITY. You lack one thing. Go, sell what you own. How hard for those with wealth to enter the Kingdom of Heaven

12:44 GENEROSITY for all of them contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty

8:27 – JESUS’ PERSON Jesus asked, “Who do you say that I am?”

10:44 LEADERSHIP. Whoever wishes to be great must become the servant of all.

12:17 POLITICS Jesus said: “Give to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s”

4:40 FAITH Jesus asked his followers: “Why are you still afraid? Have you no faith?”

## **MARK – GENERAL**

1. Do any of Jesus’ words that we looked at this fall, particularly hit home or change things for you? In what way?

## **MARK 4:35-41 – IN THE BOAT**

2. Have you been in a really bad, scary literal storm: really bad weather? Please describe? In what ways was the storm unsettling to you?
3. What kinds of other storms tend to upset or unsettle life for you?
4. Are there particular times of the day, or seasons in the year, when these storms are worse than others?
5. The storm on the Sea of Galilee probably came with no or little warning: How unsettling is the “unexpected” to you?
6. How can you make sure that you do not become the source of a storm for someone else? What steps can you take help?
7. Are there times in your life when Jesus seems to be asleep? See Psalm 121 . . .

## **MARK 14:3-9 -- IN BETHANY**

8. The woman in the story seemed oblivious to the social setting of the dinner party! How conscious are you of the social settings around you? When do you stick with expected norms? Is there a time to break with expected norms?
9. Can you describe a time when someone did something beautiful, unexpected, extravagant for you? How did you feel?
10. What stirs us up to do such things for others? Do we?
11. According to Dr. Gary Chapman, not everyone is a ‘natural gift-giver’ (The 5 Love Languages). What other ways (than gifts) are there for people to show deep appreciation and gratitude?
12. Read 2 Corinthians 8:9 – do you ever consider how much Jesus gave up – to come to earth, to live in a backwater village, and to die? How can this truth sink in for us?
13. Do you know of anyone who has ‘become poor’ (or poorer!) for you? How has that knowledge changed you?
14. Can you describe a time when the knowledge of someone’s love and strength helped move you from fear to peace to gratitude?
15. Jesus said: “*Why are you still afraid? Have you no faith?*”