

Mystic



✔ Prepare in Advance

Facilitator: In advance of the session:

- Retrieve, review, and have ready the video's and slides listed below (links are provided on this session's webpage).
- Have the *Bible Background Video* ready to view.

✔ Background

Have someone in the class read Mark 1:21-28 out loud.

Show the *Bible Background Video*.

✔ Discussion

Show the the clip called, "What People Really Think: Jesus vs. Christians." This is a clip of random street interviews regarding people's perceptions of Jesus and Christians.

Say: In today's text, people are amazed at Jesus' authority. Consider that authoritative teaching involves truth that we listen to and obey.

Think about the people to whom you give the right to speak into your life. Who do you listen to? Why does each one have "say" in your life? Share your thoughts. (note: people might want to do some silent thinking and journaling first, before sharing in the group)

Which words of Jesus' have the most weight and meaning for you. Why, and in what ways? Share your thoughts with the group

✔ Individual Reflection

Instructions: Write a conversation between you and Jesus about a current life situation/conflict where you are having difficulty doing what is "right" and "good" – however you perceive "right" and "good" to be.

- Which words of Jesus do you hear him speaking in your current situation?
- How do you feel and what do you think about his words? "Get into it" with Jesus (you can argue with him, question, complain, acquiesce, petition, etc.)
- People might want to use the following prompts for the conversation:
 - I say to Jesus . . .
 - Jesus seems to say to me . . .
 - I feel/think . . .

- I say to Jesus . . .
- He says to me . . .
- Reflect on the questions:
 - What authority do Jesus' words have in my life at the moment?
 - What, if anything, do I need God's help on, to let Jesus have a deeper "say" in my life?

✔ Closing Group Time

Share where you are in the deepening process of letting Jesus' words have authority in your life. Is it hard or difficult at the moment? Why? (additional questions: What, if anything, do you fear/worry about/hope for?)

Spend some time praying for each other's faith journeys.

By Joy Yee

