

Jesus calls us to be in but not of the world. Jesus calls us to be in but not of the world.

Mark 1:1-13
 Water **baptism** sets us apart in our culture without removing us from it.

Mark 1:14-15
 The **Gospel of the Kingdom** must be understood through the **Apostles**.

Mark 1:16-20
 God **chooses the weak** of this world to demonstrate the power of His Kingdom.

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Mark 1:21-45
 Jesus' Spirit speaks with **authority** while **shunning an official position of power**.

Jesus calls us to be in but not of the world.

Mark 1

"²¹ And they went into Capernaum; and immediately on the Sabbath He entered the synagogue and began to teach. ²² And they were amazed at His teaching; for He was **teaching them as one having authority**, and not as the scribes. ²³ And just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit; and he cried out, ²⁴ saying, "What do we have to do with You, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know who You are—the Holy One of God!" ²⁵ And Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be quiet, and come out of him!" ²⁶ And throwing him into convulsions, the unclean spirit cried out with a loud voice, and came out of him. ²⁷ And they were all amazed, so that they debated among themselves, saying, "What is this? **A new teaching with authority!** He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey Him." ²⁸ And immediately the news about Him went out everywhere into all the surrounding district of Galilee."

- ✓ Jesus was primarily a **teacher** in the Hebrew prophetic tradition.
- ✓ Jesus' **words** had **spiritual power**.

authority

ἐξουσία EXOUSIA

- ✓ related to the word "**author**"
- ✓ "out of original stuff"

Jesus spoke as if he were God.

Jesus' ministry - authoritative words
 (not superficial rules, gnostic experiences, or academic information)

- ✓ Our culture has lost confidence in objective doctrine and has moved to a more **subjective** - action, emotion, relational - basis for faith.
- ✓ The **Apostles model** for us a kingdom that is based on doctrinal teaching that produces spiritual community, holy living, and powerful ministry.
- ✓ The **Scripture** is the foundation of authority in our ministry today. **2 Tim.3:16, 2 Pet.1:20-21**

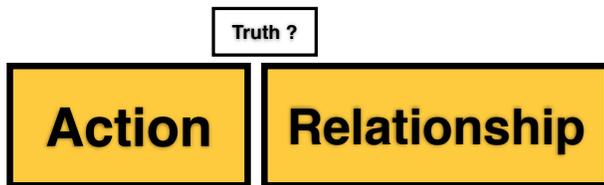
Early church's model of the faith.

Example (action)

Encounter (relationship)

Teaching (truth)

Postmodern culture's model of the faith



Example #1 of Jesus being IN but not OF the world.

- Jesus' Spirit ministers truth with power (not position) to a postmodern world where
- ✓ Passion has replaced truth.
 - ✓ Preferences have replaced standards.
 - ✓ Power has replaced common sense.

"²⁹ And immediately after they had come out of the synagogue, they came into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. ³⁰ Now Simon's mother-in-law was lying sick with a fever; and immediately they spoke to Him about her. ³¹ And He came to her and raised her up, taking her by the hand, and the fever left her, and she waited on them. ³² And when evening had come, after the sun had set, they began bringing to Him all who were ill and those who were demon-possessed. ³³ And the whole city had gathered at the door. ³⁴ And He healed many who were ill with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and He was not permitting the demons to speak, because they knew who He was."

- ✓ Jesus' healing ministry is best seen in the context of his authoritative words.
- ✓ Jesus' was called to something bigger than physical healing - the CROSS.

The Messianic Secret

1. Jesus tries to silence those who witness to his identity. **Why?**
2. This is one of those areas where it makes no sense as Christians to follow Jesus' instructions as though they are given to and about us. **We are to bear witness to him.**
3. He knew that the cross called for rejection by the leaders of Israel and the Roman government **at the proper time.**

4. Jesus waits until his trial to reveal his identity.

Mark 14

"⁶¹ . . . Again the high priest was questioning Him, and saying to Him, "Are You the Christ, the Son of the Blessed One?" ⁶² And Jesus said, "I am; . . . ⁶³ And tearing his clothes, the high priest said, "What further need do we have of witnesses? ⁶⁴ "You have heard the blasphemy; how does it seem to you?" And they all condemned Him to be deserving of death."

Mark 15

"² And Pilate questioned Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" And answering He said to him, "It is as you say." ³ And the chief priests began to accuse Him harshly."

"³⁵ And in the early morning, while it was still dark, He arose and went out and departed to a lonely place (uninhabited), and was praying there. ³⁶ And Simon and his companions hunted for Him; ³⁷ and they found Him, and said to Him, "Everyone is looking for You."

- ✓ Jesus was not always engaged with this world but often withdrew from people.
- ✓ Jesus' Spirit maintained contact with two worlds - praying and ministering.
- ✓ As his ambassadors we dare not lose touch with either world.

“38 And He said to them, "Let us go somewhere else to the towns nearby, in order that I may preach there also; for that is what I came out for." 39 And He went into their synagogues throughout all Galilee, preaching and casting out the demons.” 40 And a leper came to Him, beseeching Him and falling on his knees before Him, and saying to Him, "If You are willing, You can make me clean." 41 And moved with compassion, He stretched out His hand, and touched him, and said to him, "I am willing; be cleansed." 42 And immediately the leprosy left him and he was cleansed.”

✓ **Jesus’ connection with this world was with willing compassion** “bowels of compassion”.

**Example #2
of Jesus being IN but not OF
the world.**

**Jesus maintains intimate
contact with heaven and earth
in an age that needs
both truth and grace
(authority and compassion).**

John 1:14

“And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us, and we saw His glory, glory as of the only begotten from the Father, full of grace and truth.”

John 1:17

“For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.”

“43 And He sternly warned him and immediately sent him away, 44 and He said to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest and offer for your cleansing what Moses commanded, for a testimony to them." 45 But he went out and began to proclaim it freely and to spread the news about, to such an extent that Jesus could no longer publicly enter a city, but stayed out in unpopulated areas; and they were coming to Him from everywhere.”

- ✓ **Jesus seems to focus attention on showing signs to the Jewish leaders.**
- ✓ **Two dangers:** 1. orthodoxy without power, 2. power intoxication.

John 10:25

“the works that I do in My Father’s name, these testify of Me.”

2 Corinthians 12:12

“The signs of a true apostle were performed among you with all perseverance, by signs and wonders and miracles.”

Hebrews 2:3-4

“how shall we escape if we neglect so great a salvation? After it was at the first spoken through the Lord, it was confirmed to us by those who heard, God also bearing witness with them, both by signs and wonders and by various miracles and by gifts of the Holy Spirit according to His own will.”

**Example #3
of Jesus being IN but not OF
the world.**

**Jesus’ miracles function as
a witness
to his identity and authority
more than as a cure for death.**

1 Peter 4:11

“Whoever speaks, is to do so **as one who is speaking the utterances of God**; whoever serves is to do so **as one who is serving by the strength which God supplies**;

- ✓ **We are to minister with authority in the same way Jesus did - demonstrating power while shunning position.**
- ✓ **Peter divides ministry into speaking and serving functions. Both should demonstrate spiritual power.**

Ephesians 6

“¹³ Therefore, take up the full armor of God, that you may be able to resist in the evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴ Stand firm therefore, *having girded your loins with truth, and having put on the breastplate of righteousness,*”¹⁷ And take *the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God.* ¹⁸ With all prayer and petition pray at all times in the Spirit, and with this in view, be on the alert with all perseverance and petition for all the saints, ¹⁹ and pray on my behalf, that **utterance may be given to me in the opening of my mouth, to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel,** ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains; that **in proclaiming it I may speak boldly, as I ought to speak.**”

Speaking with authority

1. It is speaking to the issues of **life** with courageous **insight** and gracious **sensitivity**.
2. It is not **identified** by style but content and effect. It is wrongly identified as **brash boldness** without truth or grace (by immature disciples).
3. It is not to be confused with **pride, position, control, manipulation, or entitlement**.
4. It must always be married to **humility, grace, wisdom, sensitivity, and integrity**.