

BRIARCLIFF CHURCH

Small Group Study Guide: Mark

Week of September 30 (Week 7)

Mark 2:18-22



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Getting Started

1. If you have fasted before (from food, technology, etc.), write down and/or share some of your experience, learning and questions you have had with your group.

Starting with God

2. Read Mark 2:18-19 and consider the following questions:
 - a. Why do you think people fast (what do you think they want to accomplish)?
 - b. Why do you think John's disciples fasted so much?
 - c. Why do you think the Pharisees fasted so much?

3. Read Mark 2:18. What does the complaint against Jesus and his followers tell us about their attitude and conduct? Did Jesus' actions show he always valued or followed the cultural-religious expectations of the day?

4. Read Mark 2:19-20 and consider the following questions.
 - a. Does Jesus forbid fasting here or anywhere?
 - b. Who is the “bridegroom” of Israel? (See Is. 54:4-6; Jer. 2:2-3, 32; Ez. 16:1-8)
 - c. How does the image of “wedding guests” indicate how his coming changes the way we use spiritual disciplines?

Living God’s Word

5. Reread Mark 2:18-22. List any observations/implications from this passage you see for our modern lives.

Prayer

*Father God,
Thank you for the grace of your invitation to follow you and be a part of your family. Please give me
the joy you’ve purposed in you gift of salvation.
Amen.*