

Reflection

1. What is helpful about how Mark jumps straight into Jesus's ministry? What do you miss about not having the birth story?
2. Pick your favorite healing story from the ones presented in these chapters from Mark. Spend time with it, reading and praying with it throughout the week. What new learnings have you gleaned from this story? (For extra credit, take on a second healing story, perhaps one that you're unfamiliar with, and spend time with it this week, too).
3. Look at the story about the paralytic whose friends removed the roof, dug through it, and then lowered him through the ceiling so he might be healed by Jesus. Do you have friends who might do that for you? Are you a friend to others in the same way?
4. Jesus is speaking to an agrarian community and embeds his teachings in familiar stories of farming and planting. What types of situations do you think Jesus would use to tell the parables today? Take one of the parables in this week's reading and recast it using a situation familiar to you and your community.