

Southwest Life Groups

A Place to Belong...A Place to Transform

Today's Focus: To explore the atmosphere Jesus purposefully created for all those around him and to challenge ourselves with what atmosphere we have created for those around us.

Text: Mark 2

Introduction: What would it have been like to walk with Jesus for just one day...maybe as one of the disciples, one of the sick, one of the teachers of the law? What must it have been like to see a miracle...to be healed...or to be threatened as the teachers of the law were by the growing power of Jesus?

- What do you see a day in the life of Christ looking like? Describe it!
- What do you think Jesus was trying to give these groups of people that were around him?
 1. Teach them so they will know the truth?
 2. Love them so they will know who God really is?
 3. Rebuke them?
 4. Challenge them?

In Mark 2 we have a collection of stories in the narrative that give us a snapshot of what Jesus spent his time doing. Tonight I want to explore what Jesus created for those who watched him.

Dig: Divide the three sections up among your group (1-12,13-17,18-22) and dive in.

- What was Jesus doing, both with what he said and what he did, that shaped the people around him?
- How might that have affected the disciples? the crowds? the ones being healed? the Pharisees as they watched?

Application: What would it be like if someone were to follow you tomorrow...what would they see? How does what you say and do affect your friends? your enemies? your wife/husband? your church family?

- What atmosphere are you creating and how does it compare to what Jesus did?
- What part of the atmosphere of life do you want to give people this week and how?
- What part of the atmosphere of life do you need from someone this week?

Prayer: God changes us, not good conversations. Pray with each other tonight in pairs, in small groups, or in the large group. God is good...all the time!