



SERMON DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

Week of September 12, 2021

Please use these questions to stay connected as a church to meditate on the same sermon preached from God's Word this week. May this be a fruitful time for the building up of our church and for the spread of the gospel.

Sermon Text

Luke 4:31-37

31 And he went down to Capernaum, a city of Galilee. And he was teaching them on the Sabbath, 32 and they were astonished at his teaching, for his word possessed authority. 33 And in the synagogue there was a man who had the spirit of an unclean demon, and he cried out with a loud voice, 34 "Ha! What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are—the Holy One of God." 35 But Jesus rebuked him, saying, "Be silent and come out of him!" And when the demon had thrown him down in their midst, he came out of him, having done him no harm. 36 And they were all amazed and said to one another, "What is this word? For with authority and power he commands the unclean spirits, and they come out!" 37 And reports about him went out into every place in the surrounding region.

If you were not able to listen to this week's sermon, then please refer to this link to listen prior to answering these questions, <http://hawaiiKaichurch.org/sermononline>

Summary

In our passage this week, Luke writes of Jesus' authority being revealed in undeniable ways. His preaching astonished His listeners for His word possessed authority. His healing of the demon possessed man proved His

authority over the spiritual forces of darkness. Christians should not only be cognizant of the devious ways in which Satan tries to divide the church, but should also fall to their knees under the loving authority of a Savior who died for our sins and calls us to love one another even as He loved us.

Discussion Questions

1. What do you think gave Jesus' preaching such authority? What gives preaching authority today? What kind of preaching do you prefer? Declarative/Authoritative/Timeless/Matter-of-Fact? Or Conversational/Casual/Novel/Speculative? Do you think your preference differs from the unbelieving worlds? If so, how and why?
2. What kind of preaching style do you think John the Baptist and Jesus used? Why do you think the Nazarethites wanted to kill Jesus for His preaching and why did King Herod have John the Baptist beheaded for his preaching? How do you respond to God's Word today? Do we recognize the authority of God's word and repent/obey?, Or do we treat it as mere opinion and dismiss it? What does your response say about who is the real authority in your life?
3. In today's passage, the only person who really recognized Jesus' authority was the demon possessed man. Why do you think this was the case? If the demons recognize Jesus' authority and they obey Jesus' commands (they believe and obey Jesus), does this mean the demons are saved? What does this tell you about what it means to be truly saved?
4. Although we may never hear a demoniac scream out during a Sunday service, how do you see demonic spiritual forces at work in our churches today? Why is the devil's strategy to cause division with the church, while causing God's people to take our eyes off of

Jesus so effective? What should we as Christians do to thwart Satan's plans?

5. How does true faith in Jesus Christ and a recognition of His loving authority over our lives, cause Christians to sacrifice their own comfort and rights for the sake of a weaker brother or sister?