

## COMMUNITY GROUP STUDY GUIDE

**What Manner of Man Is This?**

MARK 4:35-41

**OVERVIEW**

The famed philosopher Frederich Nietzsche once said that “God was dead...and we have killed him.” While this is an impossibility, let us imagine for a moment a world where this was true. What would it be like? If we all just did what was right in our own eyes, what would our world be like? What if self was supreme? This is the question that the book of Judges seeks to answer.

**APPLY // JUDGES 17-18**

1. Read Judges 17-18.
2. Discuss the ways you see the Israelites betraying their profession of the Lord with their practice.
3. How are we tempted to reshape the Lord to make our lives more comfortable and convenient? Discuss specific examples of how this works itself out in our lives.
4. Why is it important to realize the gap in our profession and practice is not closed by labor but by love? How does this help us when we are discipling one another?
5. How do you see the Israelites trying to use God instead of delight in him? Why are we tempted to do the same?
6. How can we help each other discern where this might be present in our lives?
7. In Judges 17-18, how are the Israelites trying to do what God has already done? How are we tempted to do the same?
8. How does the gospel remind us that the most important work is already done?

**STUDY // MARK 4:35-5:43**

Study the passage of Scripture aiming to faithfully interpret and apply what you observe. Remember we study God’s word not just to increase our knowledge, but to increase our trust in and treasuring of Jesus Christ.

Note: Healthy Bible study asks three questions:

- **Observation:** What do I see?
  - **Interpretation:** What does it mean?
  - **Application:** Why does it matter?
1. Read Mark 1:1-3. From this first verse, what do we learn about Mark’s purpose in writing? Explain the terms: gospel, Jesus, Christ, son of God. Why are all these important?
  2. Verses 2-3 are prophecies spoken of hundreds of years previous concerning the promised Messiah. What do these prophecies tell us about Jesus?
  3. How does this brief introduction help us interpret the rest of Mark’s gospel?
  4. Read Mark 4:35-41. Observe and discuss the disciples’ words and actions in this passage. What do we learn about them from these observations?

5. Observe and discuss Jesus' words and actions in this passage? What do we learn about Jesus from these observations?
6. Read Psalm 65:5-7; 89:9; 104:5-7. What do these passages teach about authority over creation?
7. What does it say to you that Jesus has such extreme authority? (Note the following passages, 5:1-43, reveal Jesus' authority over demons, disease and death).
8. Jesus says the antidote to fear is faith. What is fear? What is faith? How does faith drive out fear?
9. How does the authority of Jesus revealed in this passage help you better understand the cross?

## ACCOUNTABILITY

Relationships developed and deepened during accountability provide regular encouragement, and when necessary admonition, to spur each other on to delight in the supremacy of Jesus Christ. Ask one another heart-probing, clarifying questions, and help each other apply the gospel to your lives.

**QUESTION:** Are there areas where your practice does not match your profession of Jesus as Lord?