



Mark:  
**Just  
Jesus**

**Lifting A  
Generation**

MESSAGE NOTES AVAILABLE AT  
**CENTRALASSEMBLY.ORG**



## Mark 9:16-18

<sup>16</sup>“What are you arguing with them about?” he asked. <sup>17</sup> A man in the crowd answered, “Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit that has robbed him of speech. <sup>18</sup> Whenever it seizes him, it throws him to the ground. He foams at the mouth, gnashes his teeth and becomes rigid. I asked your disciples to drive out the spirit, but they could not.”



## Mark 9:21-22a

<sup>21</sup> Jesus asked the boy's father, "How long has he been like this?"

"From childhood," he answered. <sup>22</sup>"It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him."



# Adolescent Mental Health Continues to Worsen

(Centers for Disease Control)

- In 2021, more than 4 in 10 (42%) students felt persistently sad or hopeless and nearly one-third (29%) experienced poor mental health.
- In 2021, more than 1 in 5 (22%) students seriously considered attempting suicide and 1 in 10 (10%) attempted suicide.



# What Parents and Families Can Do

## (Centers for Disease Control)

- ♦ Communicate openly and honestly, including about their values.



# What Parents and Families Can Do

(Centers for Disease Control)

- ♦ Communicate openly and honestly, including about their values.
- ♦ Supervise their adolescent to facilitate healthy decision-making.



# What Parents and Families Can Do

## (Centers for Disease Control)

- ♦ Communicate openly and honestly, including about their values.
- ♦ Supervise their adolescent to facilitate healthy decision-making.
- ♦ Spend time with their adolescent enjoying shared activities.



# What Parents and Families Can Do

## (Centers for Disease Control)

- ♦ Communicate openly and honestly, including about their values.
- ♦ Supervise their adolescent to facilitate healthy decision-making.
- ♦ Spend time with their adolescent enjoying shared activities.
- ♦ Become engaged in school activities and help with homework.



# What Parents and Families Can Do

## (Centers for Disease Control)

- ♦ Communicate openly and honestly, including about their values.
- ♦ Supervise their adolescent to facilitate healthy decision-making.
- ♦ Spend time with their adolescent enjoying shared activities.
- ♦ Become engaged in school activities and help with homework.
- ♦ Volunteer at their adolescent's school.



# What Parents and Families Can Do

## (Centers for Disease Control)

- ♦ Communicate openly and honestly, including about their values.
- ♦ Supervise their adolescent to facilitate healthy decision-making.
- ♦ Spend time with their adolescent enjoying shared activities.
- ♦ Become engaged in school activities and help with homework.
- ♦ Volunteer at their adolescent's school.
- ♦ Communicate regularly with teachers and administrators.





...“Teacher, I brought you my son, who is possessed by a spirit...”

Mark 9:17



“While the United States is gradually becoming more spiritual and less religious, polls show that belief in the paranormal is on the rise.

Polls conducted in recent decades by Gallup and the data firm YouGov suggest that roughly half of Americans believe demonic possession is real. The percentage who believe in the devil is even higher, and in fact has been growing.”

**Mike Mariani**

“American Exorcism”, The Atlantic (December 2018)



## Mark 9:22b-24

<sup>22</sup>“It has often thrown him into fire or water to kill him. But if you can do anything, take pity on us and help us.” <sup>23</sup>“If you can?” said Jesus. “Everything is possible for one who believes.” <sup>24</sup> Immediately the boy’s father exclaimed, “I do believe; help me overcome my unbelief!”



## Mark 9:25-27

<sup>25</sup> When Jesus saw that a crowd was running to the scene, he rebuked the impure spirit. “You deaf and mute spirit,” he said, “I command you, come out of him and never enter him again.” <sup>26</sup> The spirit shrieked, convulsed him violently and came out. The boy looked so much like a corpse that many said, “He’s dead.”



## Mark 9:25-27

<sup>27</sup> But Jesus took him by the hand and **lifted him to his feet**, and he stood up.



## Mark 9:28-29

<sup>28</sup> After Jesus had gone indoors, his disciples asked him privately, “Why couldn’t we drive it out?” <sup>29</sup> He replied, “This kind can come out only by prayer.”



“The one concern of the devil is to keep Christians from praying. He fears nothing from prayerless studies, prayerless work and prayerless religion. He laughs at our toil, mocks at our wisdom, but trembles when we pray.”

Samuel Chadwick



“When we rely on organization, we get what organization can do; when we rely on education, we get what education can do; when we rely on eloquence, we get what eloquence can do. But when we rely on prayer, we get what God can do.”

A.C. Dixon



Here's what we know...

The invisible realm is real.



Here's what we know...

The invisible realm is real.

The deciding factor is faith.



Here's what we know...

The invisible realm is real.

The deciding factor is faith.

The energizing principle is prayer.





*“This kind can come out only by prayer.”*

**Mark 9:29**



But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, purifies us from all sin.

1 John 1:7





....The reason the Son of God appeared was  
to destroy the devil's work.

1 John 3:8