

Sunday February 7, 2021 – Easter Hill United Methodist Church

Bible Study – Mark 1:29-39
“She Began to Serve

Open with a word of prayer

Gathering Time (5-10 minutes). In pairs or groups of three, have participants share their response to the question, “Who was the last person to serve you? What did that person do?” (It could have been a bagger at the grocery store, or someone who served you by offering a word of encouragement, etc.)

Mark 1:29-39 Context.

Read Mark 1:29-39

What touches your heart, what do you hear in the scripture, what questions do you have, or what doesn't make sense to you in the story?

Write down your thoughts or share your thoughts with the person or group you are with.

Read Mark 1:29-39 again

Some reflection questions – Write down your thoughts or share your thoughts with the person or group you are with.

- In the passage from last week's lesson, we noted the surprising element of the unclean spirit in the synagogue. In this passage, equally shocking, Jesus touches a woman – a sick woman at that. And this woman was violating the taboo of not serving guests. How is this healing more than a physical healing?
- Why do you think Jesus didn't permit the demons to speak (as we saw in last week's passage)?
- What might we learn from Jesus heading to a deserted place to pray?
- Why do you think we're more willing to share a story of a physical healing than a story of an emotional healing?
- How might have Jesus' prayers have helped him to remain focused on his mission (v. 38) and not just remain with those who wanted him to stay? Again, how does this provide a model for us as the church?
- Name one way you could serve someone close to you.

Closing Reflection Question

How is this scripture calling you to change, to see, to be or what might it be calling you to do?

Prayer (10 minutes). Each person prays sharing their answer the following statements:

I ask God for....

I thank God for.....

Sending Forth (2 minutes). After all, have shared, pray the closing prayer. Ask for a volunteer to lead the group or read the following prayer in unison:

Loving God, you have made us a blessing to be a blessing to others. Enable us to be as a mirror, reflecting your glory to those around us through our words and deeds. Give us the eyes to see the needs of others and the heart of a servant to know how best to respond. **Amen.**

And now we pray The Lord's Prayer....

Our Father who art in Heaven

hallowed be thy name.

Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,

on earth as it is in Heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses,

as we forgive those who trespass against us.

Lead us not into temptation

but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power

and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.