

Life Group Questions for the week of January 29, 2012

Scripture: Mark 1:21-28

- What are some authority figures that you heed? Are there those you resist (or have resisted)? What does “the voice of authority” sound like?
- Read the passage. What surprises you?
- What was it about the way Jesus taught that "astounded" his hearers? How was his voice different from that of the scribes? (Note that while any Jewish male was entitled to speak up and teach in a synagogue, most men deferred to the authority of these highly respected individuals to teach and interpret Scriptures. No mere copyists of texts, the scribes were the Bible scholars of their time.)
- Only Mark among the four Gospels chooses an encounter with an enslaving demonic power as the opening scene of Jesus' ministry. Why do you suppose this is so?
- What role does Jesus' authority play in your life? Name a choice you made in which you did what you believed he wanted. What were the consequences?
- A familiar scripture reads: *For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven...a time to keep silence, and a time to speak* (Ecclesiastes 3:1, 7). How do you know when to keep silent and when to speak?
- How—or when—might your voice be Jesus' voice?