**Text**: Mark 11:27-33

**Topic**: Authority/Lordship

**Date**: 09/27/2020

Pastor Derek Greenhalgh

**Power Struggle**

“Understanding why people won’t follow Jesus.”

**Text**: **Mark 11:27-30**, “**27**And they came again to Jerusalem. And as he was walking in the temple, the chief priests and the scribes and the elders came to him, **28**and they said to him, “By what authority are you doing these things, or who gave you this authority to do them?” **29**Jesus said to them, “I will ask you one question; answer me, and I will tell you by what authority I do these things. **30**Was the baptism of John from heaven or from man? Answer me.” **31**And they discussed it with one another, saying, “If we say, ‘From heaven,’ he will say, ‘Why then did you not believe him?’ **32**But shall we say, ‘From man’?”—they were afraid of the people, for they all held that John really was a prophet. **33**So they answered Jesus, “We do not know.” And Jesus said to them, “Neither will I tell you by what authority I do these things.” **English Standard Version**

*When people won’t follow Jesus*…

**Point #1**: **Recognize \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. vv.27-28**

*When people won’t follow Jesus*…

**Point #2**: **Recognize \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. vv.29-32**

*When people won’t follow Jesus*…

**Point #3**: **Recognize \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_. vv.27-28**

**Corollary Verses**: Luke 19:47; Mark 1:22, 27; Romans 8:7; Ephesians 4:17-18; Luke 3:7-8; Luke 16:19-31; Acts 17:2; Luke 20:6; Proverbs 29:25; and 1 Samuel 15:24.

**Application Questions**

These questions are provided for your further study and application of today’s sermon. Thoughtfully writing out the answers to the questions listed below will assist you in gaining a better understanding of the point of this passage. Please be prepared to discuss your answers with your Home Fellowship Groups.

1.) Read **Romans 8:5-8** and **Ephesians 4:17-18** then answer the following questions. How does Paul describe the mind of an unbeliever in Romans? Is it possible for an unbeliever to submit himself or herself to God? Why? How does he describe the condition of their heart/mind? Can they understand God’s law in such a way to learn from it?

2.) Read **1 Corinthians 2:14**; **Acts 16:14**; and **Luke 24:33**, **45** then answer the following questions. Why can’t unbelievers accept the things of God? What are they missing (also see **Ephesians 2:1**)? What did Lydia and the disciples need first in order to understand and believe? What role does the Holy Spirit play in these verses (**Acts** and **Luke**)? In **Acts 9:18** What were scales on Paul’s eyes symbolic of?

3.) Read **Luke 16:19-31**; **Acts 17:2-3**; and **2 Timothy 3:16-17** then answer the following questions. According to these passages of Scripture, what is the only evidence a person needs to come to faith in Christ or defend their faith in Christ? What kind of miracle did Lazarus believe would be enough evidence for his family members to believe in Christ? According to Paul, how sufficient are the Scriptures in proving the existence of God?

4.) Read **Luke 20:6**; **Proverbs 29:25**; and **1 Samuel 15:3-24** then answer the following questions. How can fear of man keep you from obeying God’s word? According to **Matthew 10:28**, why is it foolish to fear man? In what ways do you fear man (list as many as you can)?