

All Heaven's Breaking Loose

Mark 1:1-15

Ice Breaker: Describe a time when you climbed or hiked to top of something? What was it like when you reached the top?

Big Idea: No matter how hard we try, we cannot climb up the religious mountain to get to God. God is the One who came down out of Heaven to get to us. And God is still on the move – seeking to draw as many people to Himself as are willing to respond to His invitation.

Digging Deeper:

- 1) Read Mark 1:1-8. Why does Mark introduce the Gospel of Jesus by talking about John? How does John's ministry prepare the way for Jesus?
- 2) Read Mark 1:9-10. What happens to Heaven when Jesus comes up out of the water? The Greek word here is "schizo" (i.e. 'schism' and 'schizophrenia'). It's only used here in Mark 1:10 and in Mark 15:38 (re: the tearing of the temple curtain). Why would he use this word to describe what happened to Heaven instead of the normal word for "open"?
- 3) Read Mark 15:37-39. This word, "schizo" bookends the Gospel of Mark. What's so significant about the "tearing" that happens in Mark 15:38. Why does the "tearing" happen at the moment Jesus dies? What do these two "tearings" (1:10; 15:38) tell us about God's willingness to get to us?
- 4) Pastor Joshua said the gospel of Jesus is not about us trying to climb up some religious mountain to get to God. It's about how God came down the mountain to get to us; that because of the "schizo-ing" that happened – all of Heaven is now breaking loose. What does that mean for us? What does that mean for people who don't yet know Christ?
- 5) Have you ever bought into the lie that it's up to you to get to God – that if you're good enough, God will accept you; if you're religious enough, God will accept you? Why are you tempted to believe this lie? How does this Scripture kick against this lie?
- 6) Spend some time praying for each other – that you would live in the gospel reality of what God has done for us in Christ: that's it not about us getting to God – but about putting our trust in what God has done (in Christ) to get to us.