

Series Title: Unexpected Kingdom//Behind Enemy Lines

Main Idea: The Bible's views of personal supernaturalism conflicts with our world's concept of impersonal naturalism.

Connecting

What movie, TV show, or book that you've seen/read recently depicts the spiritual realm? How is the spiritual realm portrayed?

How do we sometimes divide the world into "us vs. them" or "good vs. evil"?

Understanding

Read Mark 1:21-28: How does the Jesus who casts out demons defy 1st Century expectations of the Messiah? Does He also defy 21st Century expectations? If so, how?

How did the people respond when Jesus cast out demons? How did they expect the coming Messiah to show His authority?

Read Mark 1:29-39. Taken with Mark 1:21-28, what do you learn in these passages about how Jesus would go about accomplishing his mission in the world?

Read Ephesians 6:12. This verse describes our true enemy. What evidence do you see that our world is influenced by these powers?

Living

How does the spiritual realm as you see it in Mark influence the way you relate to Jesus and others?

What are some steps you can take in the coming week to show family and friends that you recognize the eternal value of your relationship with them?

How can an awareness of the spiritual realm change the way we pray for ourselves, other people, our church, and our world?

Take time to pray together and praise God that the victory has been won! He is the King!

Next Week: Mark 2:1-3:6