

# Connecting Church and Home

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## Quarter 2, Week 2 :: The Servant Gets to Work

### Treasure Story: Mark 1:21-45

How comforting is it that despite all the evil in the world and all the pain we will experience in our lifetime the fact remains that God is in control? Good things happen and bad things happen, but it is all under the umbrella of God's divine providence. God is sovereign over all things, and He is sovereign over each one of our lives. God's plan of salvation for all people would not be thwarted by a man such as Herod. God's love is too great and His power too irresistible.

### Connect

"Until the will and the affections are brought under the authority of Christ, we have not begun to understand, let alone to accept, His Lordship."

– Elisabeth Elliot, *Passion and Purity*, pg. 41

In Jesus' earthly ministry, the people had misinterpreted His authority. They saw that He had control over demons and sickness but that was not the real reason Jesus came to earth. He had come to heal sinful hearts and to bring salvation to the world. Here are a few strategies for explaining to your children the control and the sovereignty of God.

- **In Control:** Next time you are in the car as a family, talk with your children about how you are in control of the car. The car will turn to the left or the right if you move the steering wheel, and it will only stop if you press the brake. The person in the driver's seat controls what the car does. Jesus is in control of all things. He is in control when there is sickness in the world, and He will be in control when He returns and removes all sickness.
- **The Real Reason:** Explain to your children the real reason Jesus had come. He came to do great things like healing and casting out demons, but the ultimate reason was to conquer sin and death. His healings were a great testimony of what life will be like when Jesus comes back and restores all things to Himself.

### My Mission As Parent

- Teach your children that Jesus has all authority. God is always in control in every circumstance and situation. Sometimes as parents we forget this truth. When our child is being disrespectful, we try to rely on ourselves. But we must trust in God's grace to help us discipline our children well.
- During Jesus' ministry on earth, people did not fully comprehend why He had come. Sometimes we too forget why Jesus came. He did not come so that we could have a better life. He did not come so that we would never get sick. Instead, Jesus came to offer a great hope. He came to save our souls from death by His death on the cross.

### Prayer Points

- Praise Jesus for His authority and thank Him that He is always in control.
- Pray for those who have not experienced Jesus' saving power.
- Praise Jesus that He took our sins upon Himself. Thank the Lord for sending Jesus to demonstrate that in a world that's out of control, He is still on the throne.