

THE PASTOR'S ESSENTIALS®

OUR LIVES IN THE BIBLE - THE BIBLE IN OUR LIVES

¹³ "ENTER THROUGH THE NARROW GATE. FOR WIDE IS THE GATE AND BROAD IS THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO DESTRUCTION, AND MANY ENTER THROUGH IT. ¹⁴ BUT SMALL IS THE GATE AND NARROW THE ROAD THAT LEADS TO LIFE, AND ONLY A FEW FIND IT.
MATTHEW 7:13-14

es-sen-tials (ĭ-sĕn'shəlz) – *noun* – those things that are necessary and basic to life. In biochemistry essentials are substances that are required for normal functioning but cannot be synthesized by the body and therefore must be included in the diet. Essentials are those things that are fundamental to the spiritual health of the professing Christian.

The Gospel of Mark A BIBLE STUDY

SESSION THREE

Mark 2:1-3:6

Questions for Session Three

1. Suppose you had lived in Capernaum, when Jesus came home. Would you have been among the people gathered there? If you went there to be in that crowd, would you have been there *out of faith* or *out of curiosity*?
2. Are you a legalist? When you read Scripture, do you believe in the letter of the law or the spirit of the law? Why? Explain your position.
3. What do you think of the reference in 2:10 to Jesus as the Son of Man? What is the implication regarding his title? What is he doing there in front of all the people?

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4. When Jesus called his disciples, how did he call them? What did they do in response to his call on their lives? Why did they believe him, and why was it easy for them to give up everything to follow him? Could you answer the call?

5. What do you think of the Son of Man spending his time and breaking bread with the sinners of the world? How would that impact your opinion of Jesus either today, or had you been present with him there in the first century?

6. Discuss your opinion of the differences between *tradition* and *traditionalism*. In some of the disagreements between Jesus and the men of the law, how would your views of *tradition* and *traditionalism* come into play?

7. How do you keep the sixth commandment? Examine Exodus 20:8 and Deuteronomy 5:12. Are we to take this seriously in the twenty-first century? If so, how can we be true to God's Word?

8. What occupations should operate on the Sabbath, and which ones should *not*, so that we are able to abide by the sixth commandment? What is necessary, and why?

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