

# DISCUSSION GUIDE

## *The Bible's Solution to Your Problems*

The Gospel of Mark - Week 42

**ICEBREAKER:** What have you been up to over the Home Group break?

**OVERVIEW:** Everyone has problems. It doesn't matter if you are young or old, rich or poor, Christian or non-Christian. In the sermon on Mark 9:14-29 we learned four principles about problems: Some problems can only be solved by Jesus; No problem is too big for Jesus; Jesus only solves problems for those who believe in Him; and Jesus will help unbelievers when believers pray. In this discussion we will take the sermon deeper and strive to get better at handling problems in the wisest, most God-glorifying way.

1. **Read Mark 9:14-29.** What insight, principle, or observation from this weekend's message did you find to be the most helpful, eye-opening, or troubling? Explain. (Or what was your key takeaway from Sunday's message?)
2. Read Psalm 69:13-18.
  - a. Who is the author of this Psalm?
  - b. What do we know about the kinds of problems that the author faced in his life that might move him to write this Psalm?
  - c. If God allowed this Psalmist to face such difficult problems, what does that mean for you?
  - d. For whom is the Psalmist praying? Is it selfish to pray for yourself? Explain.
  - e. What is the Psalmist praying for?
  - f. What does the Psalmist believe about the nature of God? How does that affect the way He responds to problems?
  - g. What do you believe about God, and how does that affect the way you handle problems?

3. Why does God allow us to go through problems?
4. What have you learned or how have you grown from a recent problem in your life?
5. The first principle about problems mentioned in the sermon was that some problems can only be solved by Jesus. Do you believe this? How does believing this principle help you to better handle problems?
6. What were the two steps to turn to God for help mentioned in the sermon? What does repentance have to do with turning to God for help?
7. Do you ever struggle to turn to God for help? Explain.
8. The second principle about problems from the sermon is that no problem is too big for Jesus. If we truly believe this, how should it affect the way we face problems?
8. How does Jesus' statement, "Everything is possible to those who believe," encourage you with your problems?
9. Are you facing a big problem in your life right now? If so, how can our Home Group pray for you and support you?

**The Last Word:** "I am able to do all things through Him who strengthens me." Philippians 4:13