

3. Which one of the ways to pay more attention to God's word mentioned in today's message or listed at CornerstoneNH.org/learn can you apply this week? How can your group help you?

4. Pray and ask the Lord to show you what you need to *know* and what you need to *do* in response to what you've heard and read this week. Write here what comes to mind. Share your answer with your group if appropriate.

IN YOUR GROUP

In your Cornerstone Community group this week, discuss your answers to the ON YOUR OWN questions. In a one-hour online group session, you might spend a 10-15 minutes catching up, 40 minutes talking through the discussion questions above, and 15-20 minutes praying for one another and planning ways the group can meet needs and serve others.

GIVE GENEROUSLY TO CARE NET

From Mother's Day to Father's Day we are joining the larger church community in Concord in supporting Care Net pregnancy center and their mission to serve families in need. See [CORNERSTONENH.ORG/CARENET](http://CornerstoneNH.org/CARENET) for details.

For your regular giving, give online at [CORNERSTONENH.ORG/GIVE](http://CornerstoneNH.org/GIVE) or text the amount you want to donate to 84321. Checks can be sent to our mailing address below. Through your generosity you're playing a part in more people saying "YES!" to Jesus!

CORNERSTONE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Mail: PO Box 1011, Concord, NH 03302-1011

Voice or Text: 603-225-2550

Email: CONTACTUS@CORNERSTONENH.ORG



YOUR NAME: _____ 05/22-23/2021

WATCH, LISTEN & MORE AT
CORNERSTONENH.ORG

Growth Guide

FOR THE WEEK OF SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2021

CONNECT AT CORNERSTONE

We want to encourage, inform, and connect with you! Go to CornerstoneNH.org and click on the New Here? link. (You can also text NEW to 603-225-2550.)

LIFE. BETTER.

*FOLLOWING JESUS MAKES LIFE BETTER
AND MAKES YOU BETTER AT LIFE.*

TODAY'S MESSAGE

LISTEN

TODAY: UNDERSTANDING • MARK 4:1-34

THE BOTTOM LINE

THE _____ YOU LISTEN, THE
_____ UNDERSTANDING YOU WILL BE
_____.

Then he added, "Pay close attention to what you hear."

The closer you listen, the more understanding
you will be given— Mark 4:24 NLT

THE RESPONSE TO JESUS SO FAR

When his family heard what was happening, they tried to take
him away. "**He's out of his mind,**" they said. — Mark 3:21

But the teachers of religious law who had arrived from
Jerusalem said, "**He's possessed by Satan...**" — Mark 3:22a NLT

"Anyone who **does God's will** is my brother and sister and
mother." — Mark 3:35 NLT

The three responses in Mark 3 are encapsulated in C.S. Lewis's famous formulation of the options in Mere Christianity. If the account of Jesus in the Gospels is true

(and there's great evidence for affirming this), then Jesus is either a lunatic, liar, or Lord:

I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: 'I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept His claim to be God.' That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic—on a level with the man who says he is a poached egg—or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God: or else a madman or something worse...You can shut Him up for a fool, you can spit at Him and kill Him as a demon; or you can fall at His feet and call Him Lord and God. But let us not come up with any patronising nonsense about His being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us. He did not intend to. — C. S. Lewis in Mere Christianity

JESUS IS DESCRIBING WHAT WE _____ &
PRESCRIBING A PARTICULAR _____

MARK 3:15-20 NLT

¹⁵ The seed that fell on the footpath represents those who hear the message, only to have Satan come at once and take it away.

¹⁶ The seed on the rocky soil represents those who hear the message and immediately receive it with joy. ¹⁷ But since they don't have deep roots, they don't last long. They fall away as soon as they have problems or are persecuted for believing God's word.

¹⁸ The seed that fell among the thorns represents others who hear God's word, ¹⁹ but all too quickly the message is crowded out by the worries of this life, the lure of wealth, and the desire for other things, so no fruit is produced.

²⁰ And the seed that fell on good soil represents those who hear and accept God's word and produce a harvest of thirty, sixty, or even a hundred times as much as had been planted!"

_____ NOT _____ IS
THE POINT

'When they see what I do, they will learn nothing.
When they hear what I say, they will not understand.
Otherwise, they will turn to me and be forgiven.'
— Mark 4:12 NLT (referencing Isaiah 6:9-10)

Then Jesus asked them, "Would anyone light a lamp and then put it under a basket or under a bed? Of course not! A lamp is placed on a stand, where its light will shine. For everything that is hidden will eventually be brought into the open, and every secret will be brought to light. — Mark 4:21-22 NLT

GOD'S WORK MAY TAKE _____ BUT THE RESULT IS

First a leaf blade pushes through, then the heads of wheat are formed, and finally the grain ripens. — Mark 4:28b NLT

And as soon as the grain is ready, the farmer comes and harvests it with a sickle, for the harvest time has come."
— Mark 4:29 NLT

Saying "YES!" to Jesus? Text **YES** to **603-225-2550**

Let us celebrate your decision

& resource you for your new life in Christ.

YOU CAN'T JUDGE THE _____ RESULT BY THE SIZE OF THE

It is like a mustard seed planted in the ground. It is the smallest of all seeds, but it becomes the largest of all garden plants; it grows long branches, and birds can make nests in its shade."

— Mark 4:31-32 NLT

THE CHALLENGE

PAY _____ ATTENTION TO

GOD'S WORD

CORNERSTONENH.ORG/LEARN

ON YOUR OWN

Answer these questions this week to reflect and go deeper.

TALK IT OVER with friends right now, using the questions highlighted in **bold**.

1. What in Scripture was once confusing to you but now makes sense?

2. From the passage we looked at today, pick one response that Jesus was trying to prompt that you think you most needed to hear. What was it?