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Central Congregational Church
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"
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Risky Faith Mark 1:35-45

Series: Getting In on the Good News
The Gospel of Jesus Christ According to Mark

Central Passages

Mark 1:40–41 (CSB) — **40** Then a man with leprosy came to him and, on his knees, begged him: "If you are willing, you can make me clean." **41** Moved with compassion, **Jesus reached out his hand and touched him.** "I am willing," he told him. "Be made clean."

Central Thought: We get in on the good news when we risk exposure to obtain mercy, and when we risk excommunication to extend mercy.

On Mission

- ❖ Prayer prepares us for and propels us into mission critical ministry. (vs. 35-39)

Risk Factors

- ❖ Exposure: Humility precedes healing – physical and spiritual. (vs. 40)

Leviticus 13:45–46 (ESV) — **45** "The leprous person who has the disease shall wear torn clothes and let the hair of his head hang loose, and he shall cover his upper lip and cry out, 'Unclean, unclean.' **46** He shall remain unclean as long as he has the disease. He is unclean. He shall live alone. His dwelling shall be outside the camp.

*Access today's sermon notes via your smartphone or tablet with the **YouVersion** Bible app from LifeChurch.tv. CCChurch Guest Wi-Fi password: central8360church.

Matthew 5:3 (ESV) — **3** "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Luke 7:6–7 (ESV) — **6** And Jesus went with them. When he was not far from the house, the centurion sent friends, saying to him, "**Lord, do not trouble yourself, for I am not worthy to have you come under my roof.** **7** Therefore I did not presume to come to you. But say the word, and let my servant be healed.

James 5:16 (ESV) — **16** Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working.

Quote: "It is sometimes easier to believe in God's power than in his mercy." (Walter W. Wessel, *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*).

- ❖ Excommunication: Compassion trumps tradition and taboo. (vs. 41-42)

Matthew 9:11–13 (ESV) — **11** And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "**Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?**" **12** But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. **13** Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' **For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.**"

Matthew 23:23–24 (ESV) — **23** "Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin, and **have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness.** These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others. **24** You blind guides, straining out a gnat and swallowing a camel!"

Micah 6:8 (ESV) — **8** He has told you, O man, what is good; and what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?

Quote: "[Jesus] boldly placed love and compassion over ritual and regulation." (Walter W. Wessel, *The Expositor's Bible Commentary*).

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