**9/8/24 The Enemy of My Enemy is My Friend! Mark 3:1-6**

* Whatever is conceived in our hearts is manifested in our actions.
* Mark records five confrontations between Jesus and the religious leaders, who constantly made accusations against Him.
* The religious leaders worried about traditions and legalism in the law instead of the people of God.
* Somehow the people that we put in charge never use common sense solutions. **Jeremiah 17:9; Mark 2:1-28;** **Acts 5:29**

**1. Like Jesus, we should stay focused on ministry and not worry about those**

 **who oppose us.**

* While the religious leaders sought to trap Jesus, He went about His normal duties of ministry, even on the Sabbath Day.
* The religious leaders had twisted the rules regarding what could or could not be done on the Sabbath to fit their evil intentions, and keep people in bondage.
* Jesus showed them that the law permits a person to do good even on the Sabbath.

**Mark 3:1-4,12:13; Luke 6:6; Exodus 31:14-15; Matthew 12:10-12**

**2. God’s Word should always come first.**

* Whatever situation that we face, we should obey God rather than man.
* Jesus became angry at the religious leaders because of their hard hearts.
* The Prophet Isaiah predicted that the people would not believe the messengers.
* A hard heart is the root of pride and leads a person away from God.

**Acts 5:29; Mark 3:5, 6:52; John 12:37-40; Judges 17:6; Proverbs 16:18; Isaiah 53:1-3**

**3. Adversity makes strange bedfellows.**

* Desperate people make desperate choices.
* The Pharisees didn't get along with the supporters of Herod, but they came together to plot to eliminate Jesus.
* The writer of Proverbs says, if the godly compromise with the wicked, it is like polluting a fountain or muddying a spring.
* Paul tells the Corinthian believers that “bad company corrupts good character.”

**Mark 3:6; Proverbs 25:26; 1 Corinthians 15:33-34**