

**Key Points, “Moving Target”**  
**January 28, 2024**

**Mark 1:21-28**

- The text discusses the concept of evil and how it is addressed in the Bible, particularly in the context of Jesus's teachings.
- Jesus encounters an individual with an *unclean spirit* during his teachings in Capernaum (NRSVUE).
- Evil is presented as a moving target, with various interpretations, including symptoms of mental illness, systemic oppression, and the consequences of human choices.
- Jesus clearly identifies and casts out the unclean spirit, demonstrating his power over evil.
- In the following pericopes, Jesus instructs those involved in healings to remain silent about his actions, suggesting a focus on him rather than the evil.
- The church has often made mistakes in identifying evil, leading to harm and discrimination. What if we did not dwell on evil but keep our focus on Christ?