

Empire Church of the Brethren

Sunday Service Sermons

28 June 2026

When Christ Comes to Your House

Text: "When they had come out of the synagogue, they entered into the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John." *Mark 1:29*

The first time I preached a sermon about Jesus coming into your home I talked about the room we did not want him to go into.

I used the reference of the Parlor which was open on Sundays.

The parlor was the room to sit and visit and have nice friendly conversation.

It was closed during the week when the house was business.

This example works best in a farming setting.

But city homes had a parlor that was open mostly on Sundays.

The point being that Jesus would be most accepted in the parlor.

In my example I made the basement the room that would be locked when Jesus came to visit.

It was not clean and it was not arranged nicely.

And it contained things that one might not want Jesus to see.

What is in your basement that you would not want Jesus to see?

The thing is Jesus has already been in the basement.

He knows what needs cleaning and he is the one to help you clean it.

Now another way to look at it: When a man came home at the end of the workday, his wife said to him, "The new minister came here today, and he asked a question I couldn't answer."

"What did he ask?"

"He asked me," she said, "Does Jesus Christ live here?"

"And what did you say?" the husband demanded.

"I didn't know what to say," she answered.

"Well. Couldn't you tell him that we are respectable people?" he asked.

"But he didn't ask me that."

"Well, why didn't you tell him we go to church when we feel like it?"

"But he didn't ask me that either."

"Then you could have told him that we read the Bible, sometimes."

"But he didn't ask me that. What he asked me was, Does Jesus Christ live here?"

That is a good question to put before any home.

But an equally important one is, What difference would Christ make in your home?

The New Testament gives us a glimpse into that answer.

One time Jesus went to a house, and it made a big difference.

This event occurred early in Jesus' public ministry.

He had gone from the mountains of Nazareth to the Sea of Galilee.

Along the shores of that lake he had taught and healed, and he had begun to call his first disciples.

On a Sabbath day Jesus went to Capernaum.

Here Mark shows us one day in the life of the Savior.

In the morning he went to the synagogue, where he taught and where he healed a demoniac.

In the afternoon he went to Peter's house.

There he healed Simon Peter's mother-in-law.

Then that evening he went out into the streets where a number of people were brought to him to be healed.

Quite a day!

From the experience in the home of Simon Peter, we can see what can happen when Christ comes to one's house.

There is healing.

Christ always brings healing to a home.

Apparently this was a morning synagogue service.

After the service Jesus went home with Peter.

In the ruins of Capernaum today, there is a synagogue.

Directly in front of it is a house in which an early church met.

It is thought that this house was Simon Peter's house.

If this is true, Jesus walked across the street to this house.

He might have gone there for rest.

After all, he had taught and healed in the synagogue service.

He must have been tired.

But he was not too tired to heal a sick mother-in-law.

In that house there was a need, and he brought the power of God into saving contact with personal need.

Who needs healing in your home?

Does your home need more love or appreciation or understanding or acceptance?

Is there competition between family members?

Into all this Jesus can bring the healing power of the Holy Spirit.

There is help.

One receives help; one can give help.

Did you notice what Simon Peter's mother-in-law did as she was healed?

She began to serve others.

All the Synoptic Gospel writers noted that.

Gratitude to God for the healing he had brought her was expressed in service.

This was the way we express gratitude as well, by serving others in the name of Jesus.

Help can be given in simple ways.

Helping others can be done in simple as well as complex ways.

John Henry Jowett told of a servant girl in his congregation who had a deep concern for her calling as a Christian.

When he asked her how she proposed to live the Christian life, she answered that she didn't have much time left from her work and she couldn't attend the church meetings or even many of the services.

So he asked her what she did.

She replied that she always took the newspaper to bed with her at night.

He asked what was the good of that.

She said that she read the birth notices and prayed for the babies that had been born.

She read of the deaths and prayed for God's comfort to come to the sorrowing families.

Help brings joy and fulfillment.

The help that you give to others, as Christ has given help to you and your family, brings joy and fulfillment.

It is a joy both to the person helping and those helped.

It is fulfillment to the person who helps others.

There is hope.

The need for hope.

We do not really know how sick this woman was.

Luke, the physician, indicated that she had a high fever.

If the fever was high enough, if the illness was severe enough, she may have been in danger of dying.

But when Christ came, there was hope.

We all need hope.

The assurance of hope.

Jesus always brings hope.

To the hopelessness of unforgiving sin, Jesus brings forgiveness and with it, hope.

To the hopelessness of habit, like drink or drugs, Christ brings the power to overcome, and with that comes hope.

To a home where love seems lost, all is now strife and bitterness rather than rest and tenderness.

Christ brings love and reconciliation and with that, hope.

There is happiness.

Happiness is a result of Christ's presence..

The biblical account does not specifically record it, but can't you sense the happiness in Peter's home after Jesus healed this woman?

Happiness is an evidence of Christ's power.

Perhaps there hasn't been much happiness at your house lately.

Perhaps the reason is that Christ has not been there much.

An evidence of Christ's power in your life is the resulting happiness and joy.

Invite Jesus Christ into your home.

See the difference he can bring.

What he does while there can change the home: the persons, the purpose, the pursuits.

Let Jesus come to your house, and see the difference he will make.