

Kids Talk: Who is the boss?

Silvia Purdie, Cashmere Presyberian Church, 3 June 2018

Readings: 1 Samuel 6

Mark 2: 23-28

Object in the box: **a sign saying “The Boss”**, possibly cardboard on a lanyard

Who’s the boss at your place?

(I got into a great conversation with kids and their parents ... “So Dad is boss in your family? So why is your mum shaking her head??”)

Who’s the boss in New Zealand

Who’s the boss in the church?

I want to suggest to you this morning that our lives work best when we let God be the boss. We have saying in the church, it is very short, only 3 words, you can remember it.

Jesus is Lord

(Get them to say that, with the congregation, a couple of times)

And that means, Jesus is the boss. God is in charge.

But there is an obvious problem with that. Can we see Jesus?

Can we hear God?

How is Jesus going to tell us what to do?

There are three ways that God exercises authority in our lives, and in our church. 3 ways that God is boss, if we let him.

(hold up 3 fingers everyone)

First, and most important, you know God in here *(touch the children on their chest and forehead)*

– Jesus lives in our hearts through his Spirit. And when we pray, “Your kingdom come your will be done” we trust God to lead us and nudge us and speak to us in silence and in our minds and spirits. Jesus is Lord of me.

Second, we know God through this, his book. The Bible is lots of different things all going on at the same time, and we trust it to be the number one authority. God really does speak through these words into my life and into our world today.

Third, we need each other. Together we figure out how God is in charge. Not me as the minister. Not just our parish clerks. The name of our church is Presbyterian. That is an old Greek word meaning, really, team-work. Eldership is about needing each other to discern together the mind of Christ. And that's how we make decisions ... we work out in practice these three things, each expressions of the Lordship of Jesus: our own conscience and faith, the teaching of the Bible, and our shared responsibility and common voice.

That is what I mean when I say Jesus is Lord. God is the boss.