

Chaplain Reflection – Jan. 27-Feb 3, 2025
Chaplain Jeremy Eubanks

The opening chapter of the Gospel of Mark has a flurry of activity, including a look at one day (the first day) of Jesus' public ministry. It was a day that included teaching, in a way that shocked and stunned those who listened; and a demonstration of authority over both the natural and super-natural world.

It prompted questions of, "Who is this man?" Or Who does he think he is? Those are foundational questions and I would encourage everyone to examine them.

But one of the questions that often comes up, especially when you see stories of Jesus' healing disease with just a word, or casting out evil with just a word; is "Why would God allow this evil to begin with?" That's a question that I know many of you run into with some of the awful situations you encounter.

The answer to that is longer than the space I have here, and has been asked/answered by much greater minds than mine. The short answer has to do with the ugly side of free will. To be able to choose love or do the right things, we are free to do the opposite. And those choices often take us and those that have nothing to do with our choices – to some awful places.

The Christian response to that evil, and situations where it seems there is no justice, is to point to a God who has experienced pain, rejection, and loss through Jesus' awful death-and see the hope that is promised by his resurrection. If this life is all there is, then these tragedies are so much worse. But if this isn't the end of the story, there is hope that justice will one day be given and hurt will be reversed.

As you encounter some of these situations on a daily basis, I want you to know that you have a team of Chaplains that is praying for your safety; praying for your success; and praying for the guarding of your hearts and minds.

If you ever want to share a prayer request or visit with a chaplain, there is a 24 hour phone line covered by the chaplain on call. The number is 816-726-7729
May God bless you as you serve the people of this city.