



Intro Letter

Mark

Welcome to the INTRUTH Bible Study on Mark.

Studying the Word of God transforms lives!

The Bible is God's message of redemption, as well as our instruction book for life. God wants us to search the Bible so we can understand the TRUTH of His character and His desire for us. The book of Mark is action-packed. Mark filled his gospel with the miracles of Jesus, illustrating again and again both the power and the compassion of the Son of God.

This study includes 16 lessons, a cover sheet, a commentary and a dictionary. Each lesson has a memory verse, 15-20 questions, a Take Away and a Blessing. They are written with the New Living Translation (NLT), but any translation will add to your experience.

These lessons are beneficial to anyone but are geared toward 10-15 year olds. This age group is experiencing major changes developmentally - physically, emotionally, socially and spiritually. It is a time of having questions about God, about self and about where they fit in the world. These lessons were created to help students think critically and wrestle through who they are and what they believe.

Teenagers are inundated with technology but starving for relationship. If possible, complete the lesson on your own and then discuss it together to learn from each other.

Mark's purpose is to reveal the identity of Jesus as the Messiah and Son of God and to reveal His mission: as clearly summarized in Mark 10:45, "For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve others and to give his life as a ransom for many."

May the Lord use these lessons to help you develop a personal, life-long love for God's Word and encourage you to connect in a community that prays, supports and shares life together!

Enjoy!



Mark



THEME VERSE: “And then he told them, “Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone.”
Mark 16:15

Author

John Mark (commonly known as Mark). He was not one of the 12 disciples.
He also accompanied Paul on his first missionary journey.

Date & Setting

Between A.D. 55 and 65.
The Roman Empire under Tiberius Caesar.

Written

The Christians in Rome.

Purpose

To present the person, work, and teachings of Jesus.

Special Features

Mark was probably the first Gospel written.
The other Gospels quote all but 31 verses of Mark.
Mark records more miracles than does any other Gospel.
Peter was likely Mark's source for the material in the Gospel.

Key People

Jesus, the 12 disciples, Pilate, the Jewish religious leaders.

Key Places

Capernaum, Nazareth, Caesarea Philippi, Jericho, Bethany, Mount of Olives, Jerusalem, Golgotha.



Commentary

Mark

Mark is the second Gospel (an account of Jesus' life and ministry) in the New Testament. Like the other Gospels, Mark records Jesus' life: His miracles, betrayal, death, resurrection, and commission. Mark is the shortest Gospel, and it is action-packed from start to finish covering who Jesus is and what He did. Mark filled his gospel with the miracles of Jesus, illustrating again and again both the power and the compassion of the Son of God.

Mark's first quote of Jesus sets the tone: "The time promised by God has come at last! The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!" (Mark 1:15). Jesus is the long awaited Messiah and He came to take away our sins by dying on the cross and resurrecting to life again to save all who turn from their sin and trust in Him. In Jesus' death and resurrection, He establishes the kingdom and at His second coming He will complete the kingdom.

This Gospel emphasizes two important characteristics of Jesus Christ:

- *His authority as the Son of God
- *His compassionate service to people (particularly in miracles)

The first half of the Gospel concerns the identity of Jesus as the Messiah and Son of God (Mark 1:1–8:30). The second half concerns the mission of Jesus (Mark 8:31–16:8).

The Identity of Jesus

The first line of the Gospel introduces Jesus as "the Messiah, the Son of God." Jesus repeatedly reminds us that God sent Him to die for our sins (Messiah) and demonstrated this through His supernatural power. Plus every passage in Mark, every miracle, every conversation, every deed, points back to Jesus' authority as the Son of God.

The Mission of Jesus

Mark reveals Jesus as God's Servant as He transformed the lives of people both physically and spiritually. His work was always for a larger purpose as stated in Mark 10:45: "the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Jesus becomes our model for how to live our lives—serving others as He did.

This gospel does not present Christianity as just a nice story, a fascinating account of events that took place in the first century. It stresses the fact that the death and resurrection of Christ is something to be believed, and it is intended to change lives.

FYI: In early transcripts, Mark's Gospel ends after verse 8 in chapter 16, where the women flee the tomb frightened and bewildered. The longer ending appears in our Bibles today, though most versions note that it is not in our earliest manuscripts.



Dictionary

Mark

apostles	men chosen by God to speak and act for Him; title given to Jesus' first disciples and others later.
authority	right to exercise power over someone else; Jesus is the ultimate authority in any Christian's life.
baptism	the use of water in a ceremony to announce that one has received Jesus Christ as their Savior.
Beezlebub	another name for Satan.
believe	to accept as true or real; trust; have confidence in; have faith in; make a commitment to. Faith.
Bible	God's autobiography; God's plan for the world; a love letter to us; an instruction manual on how to act and live.
blaspheme	slander; insult; attack; say untruths about; expressing contempt for God. Under Jewish law, its penalty is death.
blessing	an affirmation of God's love and approval. It is a deep, abiding sense that we are secure in His presence.
bridegroom	term Jesus used to refer to Himself in relation to His Church (all believers).
cast out demons	drive out or expel. Jesus literally kicked demons out of peoples bodies.
Christ	Jesus Christ; anointed Son of God; the Savior of the world. Paid the complete penalty for sin for the whole world.
compassion	sharing the hurts of another and wanting to help.
confess	openly admit wrongdoing to God; ask for forgiveness; commit to not let it happen again.
crucify	death by nailing someone to a cross.
culture	shared and accepted attitudes, values, goals, and practices in a society.
demons	are ruled by Satan; they work to tempt people to sin; they were created by God, but are fallen angels who joined Satan in his rebellion.
disciple	"student"; a learner. Disciples of Jesus Christ want to think and live like Him.
envy	feelings of discontent and resentment over the desire for possessions or qualities of another.
eternal life	life that begins when a person turns from sin in commitment to Jesus. Supreme quality of life on earth as well as unending life with God.
eternity	forever; time without a beginning or an end.

evil spirits	see demons.
faith	trust, loyalty, belief; accepting God's Word as fact; deciding to surrender and live your life to follow Jesus.
fear of the Lord	to respect who God is, what He says, and what He does; a respect that leads to obedience and love of God; profound reverence and awe toward God; true honor, devotion, obedience and love of God.
forgiveness	to pardon sins; ceasing to demand punishment.
gentile	any person who is not a Jew.
glorify	praise; worship; glorify God by obeying Him and living His way.
glory	divine quality; splendor, beauty and radiance of God's presence.
God	The One who is all-powerful; all-knowing; present everywhere at once; unchanging; above the bounds of time; absolutely right to govern His creation; Holy. God is 3 equal persons—Father, Son (Jesus), & Spirit.
Good News/ gospel	"good news"; story of Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection. The message that God sent His Son Jesus to take away our sins by dying on the cross and resurrecting to life again to save all who trust in Him.
grace	God's free and undeserved love toward sinful humans that never quits. God's favor. God's power to help us do whatever we need to do.
guarding your heart	keeping your heart pure and safe by protecting it from evil and focusing on God.
heart	inner thoughts and feelings; the real me living inside that thinks, feels, and decides; my character or personality.
heaven	God's home and where those who have believed in Jesus as their Savior go when they die.
hell	a place of punishment for those who die without believing in Jesus Christ as their personal Savior.
Herodians	Jewish political party that hoped to restore Herod the Great's line to the throne.
holy	set apart for use by God; a continual work by the HS in the lives of Christians. A life like God wants you to live.
Holy Spirit (HS)	God's Spirit. Lives within all Christians to help them, communicate God's truth to them, convict them of sin, convince them that God's ways are right, empower them to obey Jesus and comfort them when sad.
honor	show highest respect for.
hope	believe with confidence that God will accomplish what He has promised; that God will be faithful to do what He said He would do; that we trust God even if we never find out why something happens.
humility	a modest view of one's own importance; seeing ourselves as God sees us; recognizing that all we have comes from God.
hypocrisy	pretending to be something you are not and have no intention of being.
jealous	feeling of wanting something someone else has; feeling of being angry at someone because they have what you want.

Jesus	The Christ; anointed Son of God; true Messiah; Savior of the world. Paid the complete penalty for sin for the whole world.
John the Baptist	the messenger God sent to announce the coming of Jesus.
joy	deep feeling of contentment; evidence of a Holy Spirit filled life.
judgment	only God's to decide and carry out.
Kingdom of God	Jesus' reign now and a future time when Jesus will rule over all humanity. Jesus has come but He will come again.
law	God's rules for living; commandments; makes people aware of sin and their sinfulness.
leprosy	incurable, terrible skin disease.
love	more than just a feeling. Love wants what is best for the other person and acts in a kind way toward them.
mercy	deep caring, loving, forgiveness, and kindness when it is not deserved.
Messiah	Jesus Christ. Messiah is a Hebrew word for the person chosen by God to die for our sins.
miracle	wonderful happening that cannot be explained by nature or science; demonstration of God's power.
New Covenant	new relationship between God and people; everyone who believes in Jesus will be forgiven for their sins and be reconciled with God. The new covenant provides the motivation to obey God's laws, extends forgiveness when we don't, and results in an intimate relationship with God for all eternity.
obey/obedience	believing and doing what God says; living like Him; pleasing Him; serving Him; getting to know Him better. Obeying God shows our trust in Him and His will.
Old covenant	conditions and promises between God and man; The Ten Commandments are the words of the covenant not the covenant itself. The covenant or agreement became obsolete, not the laws within it.
Parable	short story using something familiar to help teach something new; stories to help reveal the truth not hide it.
Passover	greatest of all Jewish Passover feasts; reminds them of the night before God delivered His people from Egyptian slavery.
persecution	treating someone in a cruel way because he is different; mistreatment of an individual or group by another group.
perseverance	the ability to endure difficulties with calmness and patience.
Pharisees	strict group of religious leaders; loved the Law so much that they forgot about loving God and others.
redeem/ redemption	buy back; to rescue with a ransom; Jesus paid the price for our release from sin - He redeemed us.
repent	regret something you have done; ask God to forgive you; and want to change your ways; turn away from sin.
resurrection	to come back to life after being dead.
righteous/ righteousness	being in a right relationship with God; without guilt or sin. God declares believers not guilty/righteous because of their faith in Jesus.
Youth	

Sabbath	to rest. God provided the Sabbath as a day to rest and focus on God.
Sadducees	a religious Jewish group. They mixed Greek ideas with the Jewish faith.
salt	Jesus' presence in our lives – seasons us; purifies us; preserves us; adds flavor...
salvation/saved	rescued or delivered from the penalty and power of sin in your life because you believe that Jesus, God's Son, came to earth and died on the cross to pay the penalty for your sins. He resurrected to life again to save all who trust in Him.
Satan	God's enemy; powerful angel who rebelled against God and was cast out of heaven; tempts people to sin.
Savior	Jesus Christ is "The Savior" because He delivers us from being punished for our sins.
Scripture	God's Words; the Bible.
sin	any action or attitude that falls short of God's perfect standard; separates us from a holy God. When we sin we show contempt for God. Sin keeps the world from working as God originally intended it to.
Son of Man	a title Jesus used for Himself; it referred to the fact that Jesus was both human and God.
sovereign	having complete power and authority.
submit	to submit to others means respecting a person's authority; to submit to God means surrendering our own will to His; submitting is ongoing with every choice.
Synagogue	every town had a synagogue where Hebrew people got together to read from the scriptures and pray. Also where Jewish children learned to read and write.
Take up cross	under Roman law a criminal was required to carry his cross to the execution site; committed, even being willing to die, to follow Jesus.
Tax Collector	Romans hired these men to collect money for their empire; most were corrupt.
Temple	house or place of worship; the Bible also calls believers temples, because God dwells in them.
temptation	anything that attracts a person to do something unwise, wrong, or opposed to God's will.
transformation	God's promise and His work in believers' lives - radical and thorough change, both outward and inward, to be more like Jesus.
Tribulation	period of excessive troubles near the end of the world or before the Lord's return.
Trinity	there is only 1 God, but He is 3 equal Persons – the Father, the Son (Jesus), and the Holy Spirit.
Truth	God's Word is truth. It comes from God and can be trusted; genuine; honest; reliable; Jesus is called the Truth.
wisdom	God-given understanding; the ability to distinguish between right and wrong; comes from God.
worship	giving reverence and honor to God; expressing our love and praise to Him.
world	the values and ways of life found in the world that oppose the ways of God. People who live as though there is no God.

Believe in Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: “The Kingdom of God is near! Repent of your sins and believe the Good News!”
Mark 1:15

DAY 1 MARK 1:1-4 — The Beginning

1. What do Mark’s first words tell you his gospel will be about? v. 1
2. Read verse 15. What do Jesus’ first words tell you?
3. Read verses 2-5. What does baptism represent?
4. Repenting has two sides – turning away from sins and turning toward God.
What does 1 John 1:8-9 say to you?

DAY 2 MARK 1:5-11 — Baptism of Jesus

5. Read verses 5-8. How does John describe the One who will come after him? With what will Jesus baptize people?
6. Who is the Holy Spirit? Refer to the Mark Dictionary.

7. Read verses 9-11. As John baptized Jesus, what did Jesus see and hear?
How is the Trinity (the 3-fold nature of God) revealed here?
8. Since John baptized people for the repentance of their sins, and Jesus never sinned, why do you think Jesus was baptized?
9. So far in the Gospel of Mark we see 4 witnesses testifying to the identity of Jesus. Mark said Jesus is the Son of God (1:1). The prophets said Jesus is Lord (1:2-3). John the Baptist said Jesus was the One after me who is greater than I (1:7-8). God the Father said Jesus is His dearly loved Son (1:11). Who do you say Jesus is?

DAY 3 MARK 1:12-13 — Temptation of Jesus

10. Read Mark 1:12-13 and Matthew 4:1-11. How did Satan/the Devil tempt Jesus? How was Jesus able to resist Satan?
11. Why do you think God's Spirit sent Jesus to suffer in the wilderness for 40 days?
Refer to Hebrews 4:15.

DAY 4 MARK 1:16-20 — Jesus Calls His Disciples

12. Who did Jesus call to join Him? What does Jesus ask them to do? How did they respond to Jesus?

13. Why do you think they dropped everything and immediately followed Jesus?
Do you think we should have that same urgency today? Explain.

14. Jesus was asking these men to become His disciples. Review the definition of disciple. What can we learn about following Jesus from these first disciples? How will you answer Him? Explain.

DAY 5 MARK 1:1-20 — Wrap Up

15. What can we learn about following Jesus from these first disciples? What should our attitude be towards Jesus?

16. What temptations do you face? What can you take away from Jesus' time in the desert?

TAKE AWAY

Jesus begins his public ministry by proclaiming “The time promised by God has come at last! The Kingdom of God is near! Repent, of your sins and believe the Good News!” (1:15) How have you responded to Jesus' message?

BLESSING

Lord Jesus, help me to follow you with my whole life and being. And when I don't do very well, teach me and help me to grow and be faithful. Amen.

Authority of Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: “But Jesus replied, “We must go on to other towns, and I will preach to them, too. That is why I came.”

Mark 1:38

DAY 1

MARK 1:21-28 — Jesus Commands an Evil Spirit

1. Read verses 21-22. Why can Jesus teach with authority? Refer to John 3:34-35.
2. Read verses 23-26. What did the man with an evil spirit cry out? What do these verses tell you about God’s authority?
3. What happened because of this miracle? vv. 27-28

DAY 2

MARK 1:29-39 — Jesus Heals Many

4. What did Jesus do when he heard about Simon’s mother-in-law? vv. 29-31
5. Read verses 32-34. Why do you think Jesus did not want the demons to tell who He was?
6. Read verse 35. Why do you think He needed/wanted to do this? What does prayer do for you?

7. Why did Jesus want to go to the nearby villages? vv. 38-39

8. What does Jesus' willingness to help people tell us about Him?

DAY 3 MARK 1:40-45 — Jesus Cleanses a Leper

9. What did the man with leprosy say to Jesus? v. 40

10. Read verses 43-45. Why do you think the leper spread the news of what happened?

11. Why do you think so many people kept coming to see Jesus?

DAY 4 MARK 2:1-12 — Jesus Heals a Paralyzed Man

12. What happened when Jesus was preaching in a home in Capernaum? What was the first thing Jesus did for this man? Why?

13. How did the paralyzed man and his friends show they had faith in Jesus? Why do you think their faith made such a difference to Jesus?

14. Read verses 6-11. Why were the teachers of the law so upset? How did Jesus respond?

15. God alone can forgive sins. So, what is Jesus clearly stating here?

16. How did the crowd react when they saw the healed man? v. 12

DAY 5 MARK 1:21-2:12 — Wrap Up

17. What was so astonishing about Jesus' teaching? What were some of the results of His teaching?

18. What quality impresses you the most about these four friends of the paralyzed man? How do we build bridges between our lost friends and Jesus today?

TAKE AWAY

This week, tell a friend about Jesus and what He is doing in your life.

BLESSING

Jesus has authority over everything – nature, demons, distance, sin, sickness, death.

Heart for Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: “For the law was given through Moses, but God’s unfailing love and faithfulness came through Jesus Christ.”
John 1:17

DAY 1

MARK 2:13-17 — Controversy about Eating with Sinners

1. Read verse 13. What do you think it was like to listen to Jesus teach?
2. What did Jesus say to Levi? How did Levi respond? v. 14 (Levi is another name for Matthew.)
3. Read verses 15-17. Who did Matthew invite to dinner? In your own words, what was Jesus’ response to the Pharisees?
4. What does this tell us about who God chooses? What does it tell us about who we should share Jesus with?

DAY 2

MARK 2:18-22 — Controversy about Fasting

5. Review fasting in the Mark Dictionary. The Pharisees fasted twice a week to show how holy they were. Jesus uses an illustration to explain to them why His disciples are not fasting. Who is the bridegroom? What does verse 20 mean?

6. What do you learn from the two parables recorded in verses 21-22? What do they tell us about the gospel and life of following Jesus?

DAY 3 MARK 2:23-28 — Controversy about Working on the Sabbath

7. Define Sabbath. Refer to the Mark Dictionary and Exodus 34:21.

8. What is the appropriate way to view the Sabbath according to Jesus? v. 27

9. Read verse 28. What does it mean that the Son of Man is Lord over the Sabbath? Why did Jesus say this?

10. How does knowing who Jesus is guide us in understanding and applying God's law?

DAY 4 MARK 3:1-6 — Controversy about Healing on the Sabbath

11. Why were the Pharisees watching Jesus when He went into the synagogue? vv.1-2

12. Read verses 3-6. Why is the Sabbath exactly the right day for this?

13. What did Jesus see in the Pharisees' hearts? What did the religious leaders do?

14. Did you catch the irony of Christ's question in verse 4? (Hint verse 6.)

DAY 5 MARK 2:13-3:6 — Wrap Up

15. God is a God of people, not of rules. How do you sometimes get this confused?

16. How have Christ's actions broken free from cultural norms? As Christ's followers, how are we to be counter-cultural?

TAKE AWAY

Proverbs 4:23: "Guard your heart above all else, for it determines the course of your life." How can you guard your heart from becoming like the Pharisees?

BLESSING

Jesus came for those who know they are sinners. He came for each of us, no matter our sin. And He has called us to follow Him.

Following Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: “For God is working in you, giving you the desire to obey Him and the power to do what pleases Him.”
Philippians 2:13

DAY 1

MARK 3:7-12 — Followers from Afar

1. Read verses 7-8. Why was everyone so eager to see Jesus? What attracts you to Jesus?
2. How can great difficulty or physical pain make us more open to the message of Christ? How can it distract us from the message of Christ? What makes the difference?
3. Read verses 8-12. How did evil spirits react to Jesus? How does this account reveal to us the identity and authority of Christ?
4. What is the difference between knowing about Jesus and faith in Jesus?

DAY 2

MARK 3:13-19 — Jesus Chooses Twelve

5. Name the twelve special disciples (apostles) Jesus chose. vv. 13-19 What do these men have in common?

6. Review verse 14. What does Jesus appoint them to do?

7. How does this differ from how we approach discipleship? What can you learn from these responsibilities in your own path for following Jesus?

DAY 3 MARK 3:20-30 — Spiritual Warfare

8. Read verses 20-22. What conclusion did Jesus' family and the teachers of the law make about Jesus and his power?

9. What point did Jesus make to explain that the accusations were ridiculous? vv. 23-27

10. Read verses 28-30. What does Jesus say will be forgiven? What does Jesus say will not be forgiven?

Note: Do not be concerned that you commit this sin by mistake. This sin is giving credit to Satan for the works of God. This comes from someone that cares nothing for God's forgiveness. It never has forgiveness because it never wants forgiveness.

11. Since becoming a follower of Christ, have you suffered rejection from family or friends? How have you handled that? Does it help to know that even Jesus was considered crazy by His family at first?

DAY 4**MARK 3:31-35 — Jesus' Family**

12. How does Jesus describe His true family? What is the application to your life personally?

Note: In other Scriptures we learn that Jesus showed great love and respect for his mother. We also know that later His brothers became His followers.

13. How would you describe the bond between believers? How should we treat our brothers and sisters in Christ?

DAY 5**MARK 3:7-35 — Wrap Up**

14. Does Jesus want to draw large crowds? Are these crowds a sign of success?

15. Following Jesus is about being more like Him. How can Jesus increase in your life and you decrease?

TAKE AWAY

Knowing about Jesus or even knowing He is the Savior is not enough---the evil spirits even know who He is. The question is—Do you believe in Jesus and receive Him as your savior? Talk to Jesus this week about His plans for you!

BLESSING

God's offer is free to all: You can be part of God's family. This is the good news. So repent and believe!

Listen to Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: “The closer you listen, the more understanding you will be given—and you will receive even more.”

Mark 4:24

DAY 1

MARK 4:1-20 — Parable of the Soils

1. One way Jesus taught the crowds was with parables. List where the seeds landed and then tell what happened to those seeds. vv. 3-9

Where seeds landed:

What happened to the seeds:

2. Read verses 10-12. To whom is Jesus willing to reveal the “secret of the Kingdom of God”? Why is He intentionally secretive with the crowds?

3. Jesus reveals the key to the parable - the different ways people respond to God’s message.
Farmer - those that share the Gospel or God’s Truths with others.
Seeds - the gospel and the people hearing the message from the farmer.
What are the different ways people respond to God’s message? vv. 14-20

Road:

Rocks:

Weeds:

Good soil:

4. What kind of “soil” best represents you? Why? What “soil” are you tempted to revert back to?

5. As you hear, accept and apply God's Word to your life, list the fruit the Holy Spirit produces in you. Refer to Galatians 5:22-23. Is God's Word producing fruit in your life?

DAY 2 MARK 4:21-25 — Parable of the Lamp

6. What is the purpose of a candle or a lamp? How can it be kept from serving its purpose?
7. What will help you understand God's Word? What does Jesus say to those that do this? What does He say to those that do not?
8. How can we apply these verses to our lives?

DAY 3 MARK 4:21-25 — Parable of the Growing Seed

9. What does Jesus say the Kingdom of God is like? What happens to the seed (the gospel)?
10. What does this parable tell us about our role in telling people about Jesus? What is God's role?

DAY 4**MARK 4:26-34 — Parable of the Mustard Seed**

11. How does Jesus use a mustard seed to teach about God's kingdom? vv. 30-32

12. How does this parable give us hope that God's kingdom will advance?

DAY 5**MARK 4:1-34 — Wrap Up**

13. Read verses 3, 9, 12 and 24. What important lesson is Jesus teaching us in these verses?
What are you doing with what you hear?

14. What do you think of Jesus' parables? How does it feel to be on a team with God to bring people to know Him?

TAKE AWAY

We can influence the amount of understanding God will give us by listening and hungrily absorbing what He is teaching us now. As you pray and read the Bible – concentrate on letting God speak to you.

BLESSING

Let's praise God for the mysterious power His Word has to grow our faith and bring new life to those we share it with.

Listen to Jesus

Jesus' parables are full of spiritual truth that we need to understand today. Most of His audience could hear, but He referred to the need to spiritually listen in order to comprehend His truths. He said unless we understand and apply what we have received from Him, He cannot entrust us with more. Why don't we hear more of the voice of God in our lives? When we do hear Him, do we listen and respond?

What kind of soil are you? Some Christians would rather keep the rocks that need to be dug up, or live with the thorns and weeds that crowd out the seeds, instead

of allowing the Gardener to refine the soil, fertilize, and prune the plant to cultivate it for abundant productivity. Where do you fit into this parable? Ask God to make you receptive to His transforming power so that you might be fruitful for Him!

Jesus wanted the disciples, and us, to know that what is observable on the surface may not be an accurate measure of the final outcome. As we are faithful to share Jesus and how He is working in our lives, The Holy Spirit is speaking life into the hearts that are ready.

Notes

Power of Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: "Don't be afraid. Just have faith."
Mark 5:36

DAY 1

MARK 4:35-41 — Jesus has Power over Nature

1. What part of this event shows that Jesus is human? What part shows that Jesus is God?

2. What did the disciples see in Jesus? What did Jesus see in His disciples?

3. In what areas of your life are you tempted to respond with fear rather than faith?

DAY 2

MARK 5:1-20 — Jesus has Power over Demons

4. What did the demon-possessed man do when he saw Jesus? What happened to the demons when Jesus commanded them to leave the man? How was the man after the demons left him?

5. How did the people of the area react to what Jesus had done? Why do you think they reacted this way? Why do people oppose Jesus today?

6. What did the man do? vv. 18-20

DAY 3 MARK 5:25-34 — Jesus has Power over Sickness

7. What can we learn about this woman from this passage?

8. Why did Jesus ask who touched Him? What was the result of this question? For the woman? For the crowd? For the disciples?

9. What can we learn about Jesus character from His words to the woman?

DAY 4 MARK 5:35-43 — Jesus has Power over Death

10. Read verses 22-23. Who was Jairus? What did he ask Jesus to do?

11. Read verses 35-43. What did Jesus say to Jairus? What did Jesus do to raise the child?

12. Do you ever think that God's promises and faithfulness are available to others, but they're not available for you? If so, what might be causing you to think or feel that way?

DAY 5 MARK 4:35-5:43 — Wrap Up

13. What different kinds of needs did Jesus meet in these encounters with people? How is faith expressed in each encounter?

14. Identify a current "storm" or fear in your life. Then write steps on how to let Jesus handle it.

TAKE AWAY

Make up your mind now to continue to have faith in God and His loving and merciful character no matter what happens. Write out the things that you FEAR and then write over those words with the word FAITH! Faith in Jesus wipes out fear!

BLESSING

God is in the business of helping hopeless and desperate people.

Power of Jesus

Jesus' power over forces that distort or destroy life is a major theme here. He stilled the storm, delivered a demoniac, healed a woman, and restored Jairus' daughter to life. Underlying the storm at sea and demon possession and disease lay the threat of death. In each case Jesus reversed the process of destruction. He is still doing that work of restoration in the world. Jesus gives us new life when we come to Him—eternal life so that physical death loses its sting (1 Corinthians 15:55).

Furthermore, He repairs the brokenness of our lives. By faith in Christ, we are

restored to a right relationship with God. This is called reconciliation, closely intertwined with restoration. Both are by-products of faith in Christ. If you need either in your life, reread Mark 4:35 – 5:43. He has the power if you have the faith.

Jesus reproached the disciples for lack of faith, or trust, in Him. Our finite minds will never fully understand an infinite God, but how do we apply what we know of Jesus? If He is the Son of God, the loving Savior, and the powerful Lord, we can trust Him with our lives!

Notes

Miracles of Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: “Jesus took the five loaves and two fish, looked up toward heaven, and blessed them.”

Mark 6:41

DAY 1

MARK 6:1-6 — Jesus Rejected at Nazareth

1. Why were the people in Jesus’ hometown not impressed with Jesus?
2. Why could Jesus only do a few miracles in Nazareth? Why do you think that made such a difference?
3. Would Jesus be amazed at your faith or your unbelief? Does unbelief ever hinder God’s work in your own life?

DAY 2

MARK 6:7-13 — Jesus Sends Out the Apostles

4. Why do you think Jesus sent the disciples out in pairs? What were the benefits of this method? How can we follow this principle today?
5. Because of the authority Jesus had given them, what were the disciples able to do? vv. 12-13

6. There was still much the disciples had to learn and much they did not understand. What lessons can we learn from this passage about serving Jesus?

DAY 3 MARK 6:14-29 — The Death of John the Baptist

7. Read verses 14-16. What was the reaction of the region at large to Jesus? What was Herod's conclusion? Why might he have thought this?
8. Who does the world (people who live as though there were no God) think Jesus is?
9. What did Herod think of John the Baptist? v. 20
10. Read verses 17-29. Herod made a foolish promise that his wife exploited to end John the Baptist's life. What lesson can you learn from this? Is there any lesson here about peer pressure?

DAY 4 MARK 6:30-56 — Jesus Feeds Thousands & Walks on Water

11. Read verses 30-34. What did Jesus do when He saw His plans had been messed up? What can we learn from Jesus' attitude here?
12. Read verses 35-44. What does this miracle tell us about Jesus? What lessons can we learn from this passage?

13. Read the account in John 6:1-12. What can we learn from the boy?

14. Read verses 47-52. What does this miracle tell us about Jesus? What lessons can we learn from this passage?

15. What did the people of Gennesaret do when they recognized Jesus? What were the results?
vv. 53-56

DAY 5 MARK 6 — Wrap Up

16. Compare and contrast the disciples' attitudes in Mark 6.

17. Why do we still question if He can handle our problems/situations?

TAKE AWAY

Do not miss the miracles God has for you! Ask God today--and every day--to open your eyes so that you may see His work in your life.

BLESSING

Jesus still performs miracles every day!

Miracles of Jesus

At Gennesaret, crowds again came to Jesus for healing. The people in Nazareth were offended by Him. Herod thought He was John the Baptist alive again. The crowd He fed saw Him as a political deliverer. Even the disciples did not learn His true identity from His miracles, for “their hearts were hardened.” Such misunderstanding continues to this day. Some are offended. Some see Him as a problem-solver. They look to Him as a miracle-worker who will satisfy all their desires. But what should the disciples—and us—understand about Jesus? Clearly, the miracles were meant to build

faith in Jesus as the unique Son of God. Our study of these miracles should help us to trust more fully in Jesus.

Mark 6 demonstrates:

- *Jesus’ compassion
- *Jesus uses other people to bless others
- *Jesus is big enough for any expectation
- *Nothing we face here on earth is too big for God

Mark 6 reassures us of Jesus’ love for us.

Notes

Understanding Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: “Create in me a clean heart, O God. Renew a loyal spirit within me.”
Psalms 51:10

DAY 1 MARK 7:1-23 — Teachings of Jesus

1. Read verses 1-8. How did Jesus answer the Pharisees? What did Jesus say they were doing?
2. Do you think you can look like you are close to God but actually be far away from Him? Explain.
3. Read verses 9-23. What does Jesus tell the crowd? vv. 14-15 How does Jesus further explain this? vv. 21-23
4. According to Jesus, what is essential to true worship? What are you allowing to shape your heart?

DAY 2 MARK 7:24-30 — The Faith of a Gentile Woman

5. A Gentile woman asked Jesus to cast out a demon from her daughter. Jesus indicates that the Jews (children) are his priority and likens Gentiles to “dogs.” Instead of being offended, how did the woman react? vv. 27-28

6. What did Jesus do for the Gentile woman? vv. 29-30
In what ways is this woman a model for us?

DAY 3 MARK 7:31-8:10 — Miracles of Jesus

7. Read verses 31-37. Why do you think Jesus used this seemingly odd technique to heal this man?
How did the crowd react?
8. Read verses 1-10. Instead of just feeding the four thousand, why do you think Jesus first calls the disciples together?
9. Have you ever overlooked an opportunity to serve someone because you doubted that God could use you to help him or her?

DAY 4 MARK 8:11-26 — Really Seeing Jesus

10. Read verses 11-12. What do they Pharisees want this time? Why do you think Jesus refuses them?
11. Read verses 14-21. What does Jesus mean by His mini-parable on yeast in verse 15? How did the disciples interpret Jesus' statement?

12. Lies and evil can easily corrupt others. What messages are in the media and even in your school that contradict who you are as God's child?

13. Read verses 22-26. How is this healing different from all the other healings? Why do you think He healed him this way?

DAY 5 MARK 7-8:26 — Wrap Up

14. What's one way you see modern-day Christians falling into the same trap as the Pharisees of Jesus' day?

15. We will never see the reality of what God is doing when we are constantly asking Him to prove Himself. What's one way God has shown Himself faithful this week? This month? This year?

TAKE AWAY

Take an inventory of what is in your heart. Ask God to help you change your inner thoughts and feelings that are not honoring to God.

BLESSING

Jesus will meet all your needs! We have a responsibility to obey His commands even when we don't know why and trust that He has a good reason for them.

Understanding Jesus

Everything Jesus said and did here shows who He is—and what God is like. He wanted His disciples to truly understand. Though they were slow to comprehend the teachings and miracles, they stayed with Him! As we continue to observe Jesus and His disciples, we will see that spiritual revelation is a process. Perhaps there are times when we, too, are confused and uncertain about what God is doing in our lives and in the world. Ask God to touch your spiritual eyes; be patient; stay with Him. As the process continues, we will see more clearly: the world around us will come into sharper

focus and so will God!

Obedience to God flows out of a heart devoted to Him. True cleansing is internal; we are cleansed by faith in Jesus' sacrificial death, and are kept clean by His Word at work in us (John 15:3-4a). Don't trust any tradition or teaching—from the Pharisees' day to ours—that adds to, or takes away from, Scripture (7:8)!

Notes

Take Up Your Cross for Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: “If any of you wants to be My follower, you must turn from your selfish ways, take up your cross, and follow Me.”
Mark 8:34

DAY 1

MARK 8:27-33 — Who Is Jesus

1. Who did people say Jesus was? Who did Peter say Jesus is?

2. How do people answer this question today? If a friend asked you “Who is Jesus?” – What would you say?

3. What did Jesus say would happen to Him? v. 31

4. How did Jesus respond to Peter’s reprimand? Why do you think Jesus’ response was so strong?

DAY 2

MARK 8:34-9:1 — Jesus Predicts His Death

5. Read verses 34-37. When Jesus addresses the crowd, what do you think He’s telling us? What does it mean to take up your cross?

6. List ways people try to gain the world but lose their souls. Circle the ones you struggle with.

7. What cause and effect does Jesus promise in verse 38?

DAY 3 MARK 9:2-13 — Transfiguration

8. Describe how Jesus looked. vv. 2-3 How do you see Jesus?

9. Who appeared with Jesus? Who spoke to the disciples out of the cloud and what did the voice say?

10. What do you think was so important about this event? What does this teach us about what the kingdom of God may be like?

DAY 4 MARK 9:14-29 — Jesus Heals a Boy

11. While 3 of the disciples had been on the mountain with Jesus, the other disciples had found themselves in the middle of an argument. What happened? vv. 14-18

12. How do you think these disciples felt when they failed? How do you think they felt when Jesus said what He did in verse 19?

13. Read verses 20-27. What does Jesus say in verse 23? How did the father reply in verse 24? What happened because of the father's faith? vv. 25-27

14. How does the father model the faith of true discipleship?

15. Read verses 28-29. Prayer releases God's power. Do you feel like God has called you to do something but you're not seeing any progress? When's the last time you asked God for help in that area?

DAY 5 MARK 8:27-9:29 — Wrap Up

16. What are the areas in your life that you do trust God? What are the areas of unbelief?

17. What do you learn about being Jesus' disciple in this lesson?

TAKE AWAY

Who are the people in your life that need hope, and how will you share it with them?
Write a note to someone who needs HOPE and put Mark 9:23 on it!

BLESSING

Denying ourselves and following in Jesus' footsteps seems impossible. Only when we understand who Jesus is can we fulfill what He's asked of us.

Take Up Your Cross for Jesus

The disciples heard that being a disciple of Jesus involved suffering, that Jesus Himself would suffer and die but be resurrected. They had seen demonic spirits so malignant that they can be driven out only by prayer.

We too must realize that suffering for the sake of the gospel may come because of the hostility in the world (Ephesians 2:1-2).

Two words in this text hold the key to climbing out of defeat—listen and pray. God spoke on the Mount

of Transfiguration: Listen to Jesus! Listening means focusing our minds on Him, concentrating on what we read, and asking God to speak to us through His Word. Then Jesus replied to a question from his disciples, “This kind can come out only by prayer.” Prayer is our best resource in the spiritual battle we are in (Ephesians 6:12). As we listen to Him and pray to Him we will have power to cope in this world so full of problems and pain.

Notes

Servant of Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: "Whoever wants to be first must take last place and be the servant of everyone else."
Mark 9:35

DAY 1

MARK 9:30-31 — Jesus Predicts His Death

1. Why did Jesus want to be alone with His disciples? What did Jesus tell them?
2. Why might the disciples have been confused and afraid to ask questions?
3. What words of Jesus should have given them hope?

DAY 2

MARK 9:32-37 — Who Is the Greatest

4. What had the disciples been arguing about? What did Jesus say in response to their argument?
5. What does the world think makes a person great? How does this differ from what Jesus said about serving?

6. What does Jesus say about welcoming children? vv. 36-37 What is the significance of the this statement?

DAY 3 MARK 9:38-50 — Who Is Doing God's Work

7. Read verses 38-41. What did Jesus say in verse 40? Why is it easier for us as disciples of Jesus to be focused more on what other disciples of Jesus are/are not doing rather than being focused on Jesus and His message? What might this indicate about our walk with Jesus?

8. "Little ones" are not just the little in age or size, but also those that are younger in their faith. What does Jesus say? vs. 42 Why do you think that Jesus is so serious about this?

9. Verses 43-47 use strong language that is not meant to promote self-mutilation, but rather to describe how important it is for us to "cut out" anything that causes us to sin or turn away from our faith. To be more like Jesus today than you were yesterday, what would need to "cut out"?

10. Read verses 49-50. Does your lifestyle make people want to know Jesus or run from Him?

DAY 4 MARK 10:1-12 — Divorce and Marriage

11. Why did Pharisees ask Jesus about divorce? v. 2
From verses 7-9 describe God's plan for marriage.

12. How is God's definition of marriage different than what you see in the world today?

13. Why does God disapprove of divorce? Why did He allow it? What problems does divorce cause?

DAY 5 MARK 9:30-10:12 — Wrap Up

14. List specific ways you can be a servant in your family and with your friends.

15. How have you felt when you truly served someone else?

TAKE AWAY

Pray that God will show you 1 specific way that you can serve someone this week.

BLESSING

Jesus' mission was to serve. We are called to the same mission.

Servant of Jesus

Jesus taught that our values are upside down. Why is it so difficult for us to live by His teachings? Surely pride gets in the way. We must ask God to give us humility. The closer we draw to God, the more humble we become. Then we will have a servant heart, treat others with respect, and help those in need.

Jesus tells us that marriage is established by God and is between a man and a woman. Therefore what God has joined together let no man separate.

All who have experienced divorce know there are inevitable consequences that affect many lives, but God forgives divorce, just as He forgives any other sin we confess to Him.

Strong families are the foundation of a healthy society. As God's people we have a responsibility and opportunity to model God's divine purposes for marriage and family. Will we rise to the challenge or blend into the culture? If you are called to marriage, how can you prepare yourself, even now for a marriage that will last?

Notes

Faith in Jesus

 MEMORY VERSE: "Everything is possible with God."
Mark 10:27

DAY 1 MARK 10:13-16 — Jesus Blesses the Children

1. Why were people bringing their children to Jesus? What do you think of Jesus' response to his disciples and the children?

2. What qualities do children have that we need to have?

DAY 2 MARK 10:17-31 — The Rich Man

3. Read verses 17-20. What question did the rich young ruler ask Jesus? What did the man say he had already been doing to earn eternal life?

4. Read verses 21-22. What is the one thing Jesus told him he needed to do? How did the rich young ruler respond to Jesus' words?

5. Read verses 23-27. What is the point Jesus is making here? What can we learn from this about true discipleship?

6. Read Ephesians 2:8-9. From these verses, how would you answer the rich young rulers question?

7. Read verses 28-31. What do you think Peter is looking for in his statement? What do you think Jesus' reply means to us?

DAY 3 MARK 10:32-45 — What It Means to Follow Jesus

8. Read verses 32-34. How does knowing that Jesus knows what will happen to Him, make you feel?

9. Read verses 35-40. How did Jesus respond to the favor James and John asked Him? In what way does Jesus response speak of the will of the Father and demonstrate His submission to that will?

10. Read verses 42-44. When the other disciples got angry with James and John, what lesson did Jesus teach them during this teachable moment?

11. What does Jesus add? v. 45 In your own words, tell why Jesus came?

DAY 4 MARK 10:46-52 — Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus

12. Read verses 46-68. How would you describe Bartimaeus?

13. Read verses 50-52. How did Jesus show himself as a servant to Bartimaeus? What healed the man?

14. In this specific incident, what is the role of faith?

DAY 5 MARK 10:13-52 — Wrap Up

15. Think about where you spend your time and money. What, if anything, would you say you value more than Jesus?

16. What does Jesus expect of someone who wants to be His disciple? How does your attitude about serving others compare to Jesus' words?

TAKE AWAY

Jesus explained that in the world to come the values of this world will be reversed. What matters in heaven is your commitment to Jesus. How can you keep yourself from getting so caught up in earthly rewards?

BLESSING

You will always be God's child – no matter how old you are.

Faith in Jesus

Just like the children, Jesus wants us all to come to Him. to believe in Him, and to be blessed by Him.

Jesus told us that to enter the kingdom of God we must do so like a child and then tells us about the rich young ruler. He valued his earthly wealth and possessions, more than he valued a relationship with God. If it depends on man, it is not possible to be saved - only by the grace and mercy of the Lord to those that believe and follow Him.

James and John, like all of the disciples back in Mark 9:33, sought human greatness. Jesus here, as he did then, redefined greatness. Whoever wants to become great among you must be your servant. Whoever wants to be first must be a slave of everyone else.

Jesus offers us salvation and calls every believer to discipleship. Discipleship implies obedience to Christ in every area of life. What personal changes can you make to become more of a servant and less of a power-seeker?

Notes

Worshiping Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: "I tell you, you can pray for anything, and if you believe that you've received it, it will be yours."

Mark 11:24

DAY 1

MARK 11:1-14 — Triumphal Entry Into Jerusalem

1. Read 1-7. How amazing does it seem that every detail worked out just as Jesus predicted? How do these verses fulfill the prophecy in Zechariah 9:7-9?
2. Read verses 8-10. What can you learn from how the people reacted to Jesus?
3. Read verses 11-14. The fig tree represented Israel. What do you suppose is the deeper meaning or a deeper lesson?

DAY 2

MARK 11:15-19 — Jesus Clears the Table

4. Read verses 15-17. What did Jesus do when he entered the temple the next day? What were merchants doing in the temple courts that Jesus didn't like? Why didn't he like this?
5. What did the religious leaders do? Why? v. 18

6. What do these verses teach us about people? Teach us about Jesus' character?

DAY 3 MARK 11:20-26 — The Power of Faith

7. Read verses 13-14 and 20-21. Jesus cleansing the Temple is right in the middle of the parable of the fig tree. What do you think Jesus is telling us is the connection between the people in the Temple and the fig tree?

8. Read verses 22-24. What did Jesus teach His disciples from this situation? What was the key principle here?

9. In what kind of situation could you have this kind of faith that a mountain would be moved for you? How should this passage influence our prayer life?

10. Read verse 25. How does how we forgive others affect how God forgives us? Why might God not answer prayers if we don't really believe or if we're not forgiving others?

DAY 4 MARK 11:27-33 — Jesus' Authority Challenged

11. What question did the chief priests, scribes and elders ask Jesus? vv. 27-28
What "things" were they talking about? vv. 15-17

12. Read verses 30-34. What question did Jesus ask them in return?
Why wouldn't they answer Jesus?

13. What do we learn about people and human nature from their response?

DAY 5 MARK 11 — Wrap Up

14. What do Jesus' actions in this lesson tell you about His view of Himself and His mission?

15. What do the things you're asking God for say about your priorities in life? Are your priorities in line with God's priorities?

TAKE AWAY

God is your heavenly Father. He sees your life right now from beginning to end. He answers prayers with YES, NO, or WAIT. If you believe and forgive – all prayers get answered.

BLESSING

Prayer isn't about getting what we ask for. It's about getting more of God. Because it's only through God's love that we discover the soul-satisfying peace and joy we really want.

Worshiping Jesus

Jesus approaches Jerusalem for the last time, knowing what will soon happen to Him. Yet He continues with His life while preparing for His death, visiting friends and teaching His disciples. He fulfills Old Testament predictions: riding a donkey and cleansing the temple, but the cheering crowds soon demand His execution. What about you? What is your response to Jesus? Are you for Him because your friends are?

Have faith in God. You can have faith in His character, that He is loving and gracious and merciful and does what

is best for us. You can have faith in His sovereign power, that He is completely able to control circumstances to bring about a specific outcome or even supernaturally intervene.

As we spend time with God, our thoughts and desires become more like His. When that happens, we can ask God for anything and He'll give it to us. Why? Because we will have been transformed to the point that we want what He wants for us.

Notes

Be Ready for Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, all your soul, all your mind, and all your strength. The second is equally important: Love your neighbor as yourself.”
Mark 12:30-31

DAY 1

MARK 12:1-17 — The Authorities

1. Substitute each of the following in the parable. vv. 1-12
The vineyard: Nation of Israel Owner of the vineyard: God Son: Jesus
Tenant Farmers: Religious Leaders Servants: Prophets Others: Gentiles
What points do you think Jesus was trying to get across that still apply to us?
2. What do we learn about human nature? What do we learn about God’s nature?
3. Read verses 13-17. What did the Pharisees and Herodians ask Jesus? What is God’s? What do you think Jesus wants you to learn from His answer? Refer to Romans 13:1-2.

DAY 2

MARK 12:18-44 — What Is Important

4. Read verses 18-25. How did Jesus reply to the Sadducees’ supposedly unanswerable question?
5. Read verses 26-27. What point is Jesus making? How did Jesus address the belief of all Sadducees that there is no life after death?

6. Read verses 28-34. According to the greatest commandment, how are we to love God? How are we supposed to love our neighbors? Why do you think Jesus says that there are no greater commandments than these?

7. Read verses 35-37. What point is Jesus making?

8. Read verses 38-44. What do these verses teach us about people? What principle do we learn about giving?

DAY 3 MARK 13:1-13 — Be Ready for Coming Persecution

9. As the disciples were leaving the Temple, what did Jesus say would happen? vv. 1-2
(This prophecy was fulfilled approximately 40 years later.)

10. Read verses 3-13. What must happen first, before the end can come? v. 10 What will the Holy Spirit do for believers? v. 11 What must we do? v.13

11. What do you think is the main point Jesus wants His disciples to get by sharing these signs?

12. Does the imminent approach of the end of the world make you uneasy or fearful? Explain.

DAY 4**MARK 13:14-37 — The Return of Christ**

13. Read verses 14-23. Review the definition of Tribulation. The world scene just before the return of Jesus will be horrible. Choose a couple of words from these verses that describe what that time will be like. What temptation will face even believers during this time? vv. 21-22
14. Read verses 24-37. When will Jesus return? v. 32 What illustration does Jesus give about His return? vv. 34-36 What should we be doing while waiting for Jesus' return?

DAY 5**MARK 12-13:37 — Wrap Up**

15. What does it mean to love God with all your heart, mind and soul? What do you need to do to love God more? To love your neighbor more?
16. Jesus gives us a vivid description of the signs of the end of the world as we know it. He includes important details, warnings, and instructions for those who love and obey Him. What does Jesus say we'll need to survive?

TAKE AWAY

Think about your life before Jesus. What are some of the ways you were hard to love? How does that change your perspective on the hard-to-love people in your life today?

BLESSING

When Jesus returns we do not know, but these signs will be a reminder that Jesus is coming very soon to restore the world. Stay alert!

Standing Firm for Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: “Abba, Father,” He cried out, “everything is possible for you. Please take this cup of suffering away from Me. Yet I want Your will to be done, not Mine.”
Mark 14:36

DAY 1 MARK 14:1-9 — Great Love

1. Why did the religious leaders delay their plans to capture and kill Jesus? vv. 1-2
Read Exodus 12:3-13 and tell about the event in Jewish history.

2. Read verses 3-9. Why did Jesus defend the woman? How is this woman’s act of worship an example for you?

DAY 2 MARK 14:10-26 — Great Betrayal

3. Who went to the chief priests to betray Jesus? v. 10-11
Write some differences between the perfume lady and Judas.

4. Read verses 17-21. Even though Judas’ actions fulfilled prophecy, God did not prompt him to sin. What might have motivated Judas to betray Jesus? What do you think is the worst thing about this betrayal?

5. Read verses 22-26. In traditional Passover services the emphasis is on the sacrificial lamb. Where did Jesus place His emphasis? Why?

6. Read Luke 22:19. What is the meaning of the Lord's Supper? Why should we do it?

DAY 3 MARK 14:27-52 — Jesus in Gethsemane

7. Read verses 27-31. Jesus tells the disciples that they will all desert Him. What does Peter tell Jesus? What does Jesus tell Peter? What lessons can we learn from these verses?

8. Read verses 32-42. What did Jesus pray to His Father? Did God grant Jesus' request? Why is God's will always best?

9. Read verses 43-52. Why did Jesus say His arrest happened this way? What lessons do we learn from Jesus in these verses? What lessons do we learn from the disciples?

DAY 4 MARK 14:53-72 — Jesus Before the Council

10. Where did they take Jesus? Who followed? v. 53-54

11. Read verses 55-65. Why did the religious leaders have such a hard time convicting Jesus of any crime? How did Jesus reply to the question, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" What was the reaction as Jesus was taken away?
12. Read verses 66-72. What can we learn from Peter's denials? Why do you think Peter denied Christ though he was committed to Him? Why are things like this even mentioned in the Bible?

DAY 5 MARK 14 — Wrap Up

13. How did you see Jesus' determination and His compassion in this lesson?
14. Do your actions change based on who's around? Are you denying knowing Jesus in any area of your life? How do you think He feels about you when you fail Him?

TAKE AWAY

Let us remember to be determined to follow Jesus no matter what the cost and to be compassionate to others even if they don't deserve it.

BLESSING

Jesus welcomes us back, no matter how far away from Him we walk.

Standing Firm for Jesus

The days before the crucifixion are like a seething cauldron. Things that simmered, boil: Judas' decision to betray Jesus becomes deed; Peter's bravado becomes denial; the priests' plans become deadly action. The anointing of Jesus is a bright spot in a dark scene. The Passover feast, when Jesus breaks bread and pours wine, is the high point. Judas' betrayal and Peter's denial are low points. Jesus' struggle in Gethsemane is the decisive point.

Lord's Supper: Jesus, by His sacrificial death, became the Passover offering. Old

ceremonies became obsolete. Believers would now celebrate the Lord's Supper. If we accept His sacrifice on our behalf we are people of the new covenant, acknowledging that His body was broken for us, His blood spilled for us. As you prepare to take communion, ask God to help you understand its significance.

Garden: Jesus' struggle testifies to His humanity. When we face intense struggles in our lives we know Jesus has been there! Whatever you face—pain, suffering, betrayal, rejection, doubt or confusion—He is with you.

Notes

Sacrifice of Jesus



MEMORY VERSE: "For the Lord your God will personally go ahead of you. He will neither fail you nor abandon you."
Deuteronomy 31:6

DAY 1 MARK 15:1-20 — Jesus Before Pilate

1. Read verses 1-5. Jewish leaders had no authority to execute people so they took Jesus to Pilate. What surprised Pilate?
2. Read verses 3-14. Why did Pilate think the chief priests had brought Jesus in? v. 10
When Pilate offered to release Jesus how did the crowd react? What did the crowd want done to Jesus?
3. Read verses 15-20. Why did Pilate agree to have Jesus crucified? What brutality do the soldiers inflict upon Him?

DAY 2 MARK 15:21-32 — The Crucifixion

4. Read verses 21-24. What did they have Simon do? Jesus did not have the strength to carry His own cross. How do you think He kept going?
5. Read verses 24-26. What did the soldiers do? What was the inscription written over Jesus?

6. Read verses 27-32. What were the people, the religious leaders and even the other criminals saying? What does Jesus' self-control in not replying to their accusations teach us?

DAY 3 MARK 15:33-41 — The Death of Jesus

7. What occurred between the 6th and the 9th hours? (Noon to 3:00 pm) v. 33

8. From verse 34, Luke 23:34 and John 19:30 what did Jesus cry out as He took His last breath? What can we learn about Jesus from this?

9. A heavy curtain hung in front of the temple room called the Most Holy Place; a place reserved by God for Himself. Read verse 38. Why did Jesus have to die and what does it mean that the curtain was torn? Also see Hebrews 7:27.

10. Read verses 39-41. What did the Roman centurion see and then say? What followers of Jesus were watching?

11. What insight do the following verses give into the feeling of abandonment by God that Jesus felt when our sin was upon him?

Habakkuk 1:13:

Isaiah 59:2:

2 Corinthians 5:21:

DAY 4**MARK 15:42-47 — The Burial of Jesus**

12. Who asked for the body of Jesus in order to bury Him? What risks does a man of His status take by asking for the body of a condemned man? Why do you think Pilate granted this request?
13. Who assured Pilate that Jesus had died? What was done with Jesus' body? Who watched to see where Jesus was buried?
14. How do you think the disciples felt at this time? How about the rulers?

DAY 5**MARK 15 — Wrap Up**

15. What important lessons does the crucifixion teach us?
16. How can you apply your response to Jesus' death to your life this week?

TAKE AWAY

This week, spend time thinking about what Jesus did for you! Then share your heart with Him.

BLESSING

If you have asked Jesus to be your Savior, the blood Jesus shed on the cross covered your sin, washed you clean and put you in right standing with God.

Resurrection of Christ



MEMORY VERSE: "Go into all the world and preach the Good News to everyone."
Mark 16:15

DAY 1 MARK 16:1-8 — The Resurrection

1. Why did the women go to the tomb? Were they expecting the resurrection?
2. What did the young man (angel) tell the women? Describe their reaction when they saw the young man and when he told them Jesus was risen.
3. Why do you think the angel asked the women to speak to the disciples, and to Peter specifically?
4. What implications does Jesus' resurrection have? What meaning does it have? How is your future different because Jesus is alive?

DAY 2 MARK 16:9-14 — Jesus Appears to Many

5. To whom does Jesus appear in the following verses and what happens?
vv. 9-11

vv. 12-13

vv. 14

6. From 1 Corinthians 15:6, how many people does Paul tell us saw Jesus after the resurrection?

7. Why do you think most of Jesus' disciples doubted His resurrection?

8. Do you ever have doubts about God, Jesus, and the Bible? What should you do when you have doubts?

9. What would have happened if Jesus hadn't arose from the dead?

DAY 3 MARK 16:15-20 — The Great Commission

10. What instructions did Jesus give to His disciples? vv. 15-16

11. Read verses 17-18 and 20. Were these commands just for His apostles, or are they for others? Are they for you? How have you seen God work through you?

DAY 4 MARK 16:19 — The Ascension of Jesus

12. What happened in verse 19?

13. Read Luke 24:50-52 and answer the following questions.

What did Jesus do before He ascended?

Where did Jesus go when He ascended?

What did the disciples do after Jesus ascended?

14. Why did the disciples have great joy when Jesus ascended? Is your life filled with great joy because Jesus is ascended? Explain.

DAY 5 MARK 16 — Wrap Up

15. What lessons do we learn from the resurrection?

16. What significance does God raising Jesus from the dead have for you? How has it changed your life? Extra verses: 2 Corinthians 4:14; Romans 8:11; Romans 6:4,14; Romans 5:10.

17. What do you see as your responsibility in helping to fulfill the commission “to go into all the world and preach the good news”?

TAKE AWAY

You may not be able to “go everywhere and preach” like the disciples did, but you can “preach wherever you go.” The Good News is that Jesus is alive and He lives in all believers. Share with your friends about what His resurrection means to you. You don’t have to be an expert on the Bible. Pray 1st, then open your mouth to share your changed life.

BLESSING

Jesus is RISEN! Death could not hold Him. Rejoice in the resurrection of Jesus Christ!

