



— THE GOSPEL OF —
MARK

THE BEGINNING OF THE GOOD NEWS
ABOUT JESUS THE MESSIAH, THE SON OF GOD.

— MARK 1:1 —

WELCOME TO MARK

Our series in Mark's Gospel centres around three questions ...

Who is Jesus?

Jesus asked His disciples in Mark 8:29, "Who do you say I am?" Is Jesus simply a good teacher, a miracle worker, or something more? Right from the beginning, God declares, "You are my Son, whom I love; with you I am well pleased" (Mark 1:11). Mark reveals that Jesus is the promised King, the Son of God.

What has Jesus come to do?

Jesus said: "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life as a ransom for many." Through His death and resurrection, He pays the price for our sin so that we can be forgiven and brought back into relationship with God.

What does it mean to follow Jesus?

Jesus' invitation in Mark 1:17 is simple: "Come, follow me." Following Jesus means trusting Him as Lord and Saviour, turning from our old way of life, learning from Him, obeying His Word, becoming more like Him, and joining Him in His mission of helping others come to know Him.

Revealing His Identity

Mark reveals Jesus' identity through His actions. As Jesus calls disciples, forgives sins, heals the sick, commands nature, and defeats evil, we discover that He is the Messiah, the Son of God, and the Lord. Mark's Gospel invites readers to understand who Jesus is by watching what He does.

Revealing the Father

Mark shows us God through Jesus. Jesus reveals God's character, authority, compassion, and power. Through Him we see that God is King, Father, and Savior—a God who welcomes outsiders, forgives sinners, and acts decisively to rescue His people.

Revealing the Kingdom

The Kingdom of God has come to us in Jesus. Jesus is King, he reigns and we are his people. Jesus brings salvation, transformation. He forms a new community of people who live under God's authority. The kingdom now and not yet.

Following Jesus

Mark reveals who Jesus is then calls people to follow him. This means placing your faith in Him and his work, obeying His teaching and embracing His mission. Mark presents discipleship as a lifelong journey of being transformed by Jesus and participating in God's kingdom.

Mission

Mark points beyond Israel to God's mission for all nations. Jesus welcomes outsiders, redefines God's family around obedience to God's will, and lays the foundation for a worldwide community of disciples. The Gospel demonstrates that the good news of Jesus is for every people group and culture.

Salvation Through the Cross

The climax of Mark's Gospel is the death and resurrection of Jesus. What appears to be defeat becomes God's means of salvation. Through the cross, Jesus reconciles humanity to God and reveals His true identity. Mark presents salvation as God's gracious work accomplished through Christ's sacrificial death and victorious resurrection.

MARK'S NARRATIVE

Mark begins with the declaration that Jesus is the Messiah and Son of God, then demonstrates His authority through teaching, miracles, and the proclamation of God's kingdom.

As the story unfolds, Jesus repeatedly calls people to faith while exposing the inadequacy of merely external religion.

The turning point comes when the disciples recognize Jesus as the Christ, yet must learn that His mission involves suffering, sacrifice, and the cross.

The final chapters reveal Jesus as the faithful King who willingly dies for sinners and rises again in victory.

Mark therefore shows that God's kingdom comes through the crucified and risen Christ, inviting every reader to repent, believe the gospel, and follow Jesus as Lord.

Mark 1:1-20

Who is Jesus ?

Mark 1:1-20

1. What key figures, events, and locations are introduced in this opening of Mark's Gospel?
2. What is the core message of John the Baptist's preaching, and why is it significant at the start of Mark's Gospel?
3. What do Jesus' baptism, the Spirit descending, and the Father's voice reveal about His identity and mission?
4. What does "repentance" mean in the context of John's and Jesus' message—what is it turning from, and turning toward?
5. What does it mean, in this passage, to "follow" Jesus? What kind of response is He calling for?
6. How is the kingdom of God being announced and inaugurated in these opening verses?

Mark 1:16–2:17

What does it mean that Jesus has authority ?

Mark 1:16–2:17

1. What different situations do you see Jesus entering into in this passage?
2. Who does Jesus call and how do they respond?
3. What stands out to you about the way Jesus calls people to follow him?
4. If Jesus has authority over every area of life, what difference should that make to how we live?
5. How do these stories reveal about who Jesus is and what he has come to do?
6. What does following Jesus look like for you in your context ?

Mark 2:18–3:35

How is Jesus redefining human perspectives in this text ?

Mark 2:18–3:35

1. What do Jesus' actions reveal about what matters to him?
2. What expectations or assumptions about following Jesus might you need to rethink?
3. Why does Jesus spend time with people who were considered outsiders or sinners?
4. What does Jesus mean when he says, "The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath"?
5. Why do you think Jesus' ministry creates both amazement and opposition?
6. What does Jesus' choice of the twelve tell us about the kind of community he is building?
7. Who might Jesus be calling you to welcome or make room for?

Mark 4:1–34

What things compete for your attention ?

Mark 4:1–34

1. Describe the different soils, and what happens to the seed in each?
2. What other pictures does Jesus use to describe God's kingdom?
3. What do the different soils reveal about people's response to God's Word?
4. What do they teach about God's role and our role?
5. What prevents the seed from producing fruit in each of the first three soils?
6. What does the good soil do differently?
7. What does fruit look like in a person's life?

Mark 4:35–5:43

How would you define authority ?

Mark 4:35–5:43

1. What do these miracles show us about Jesus ?
2. What do the disciples' question, "Who then is this?" help us understand about Jesus?
3. How do we see Jesus' compassion alongside his authority and power?
4. What difference does it make that Jesus has authority over creation, evil, sickness and even death?
5. How do we see Jesus' compassion alongside his authority and power?
6. What do you think Mark wants us to understand about who Jesus is through these four stories?
7. How does Jesus' authority shape the way we live ?

Mark 6

Have you experienced opposition for your beliefs?

Mark 6

1. What does Jesus mean when he says, “A prophet is not without honour except in his hometown”?
2. What instructions are given to the disciples and what is the purpose behind them ?
3. How are the disciples told to respond when people welcome their message—and when they reject it?
4. Why do you think Mark places the story of John the Baptist’s death in the middle of the disciples’ mission?
5. What similarities and differences do you see between John’s ministry, Jesus’ ministry, and the disciples’ ministry?
6. What does John’s death teach us about the cost of faithfully following and speaking for Jesus?

Mark 8

Who is Jesus ? How do you know ?

Mark 8

1. Explain the significance of feeding the 4000 in light of Jesus identity and Exodus 16.
2. Explain Jesus' warning in verse 14.
3. Why is Peter's confession, "You are the Messiah," such a significant moment in Mark's Gospel?
4. Why does Jesus immediately teach about His suffering, death, and resurrection after Peter's confession? How does this reshape expectations of the Messiah?
5. What does Jesus mean by, "Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me"?
6. How does the healing of the blind man at Bethsaida connect with the disciples' growing understanding of Jesus?

7. What does Mark 8 teach us about who Jesus is, what He came to do, and what it means to follow Him?

Mark 9

If you could have been there for one amazing moment in history, what would you choose?

Mark 9

1. What does the transfiguration show us about Jesus, and why are Moses, Elijah, and the Father's voice important ?
2. Why does Jesus command the disciples not to stay silent until after His resurrection?
3. Why do the disciples struggle to understand Jesus' teaching about His suffering, death, and resurrection?
4. What does the healing of the boy with an unclean spirit teach us about faith, dependence on God, and Jesus' authority over evil?
5. Why do the disciples argue about who is the greatest, and how does Jesus redefine greatness in His kingdom?
6. What does Mark 9 teach us about what it means to listen to Jesus, trust Him, and live as His followers?

Mark 10

What earns respect in our culture ?

Mark 10

1. What does Jesus' teaching on marriage and divorce reveal about God's original design ?
2. What does Jesus' teaching about His suffering, death, and resurrection reveal about why He came and what kind of King He is?
3. How does Jesus redefine what it means to be great ?
4. What does the healing of blind Bartimaeus reveal about faith, following Jesus, and recognising who He truly is?
5. Throughout Mark 10, what does Jesus teach about how we enter the Kingdom ?

Mark 11

Mark 11

1. Why does Jesus enter Jerusalem riding on a donkey?
2. How do the crowds respond to Jesus' arrival ?
3. Why did Jesus curse the fig tree?
4. Why does Jesus clear the temple?
5. What do these words show us about Jesus hear ? "My house will be called a house of prayer for all nations"?
6. Why are the religious leaders challenged ?
7. What does Jesus teach about faith and prayer when He speaks about moving mountains and forgiving others?
8. Throughout Mark 11, how does Jesus reveal Himself as the promised King ?

Mark 14

Describe a time when you had to choose between what was easy and what was right?

Mark 14

1. What key events take place in the lead-up to Jesus' arrest?
2. How do the various people in this chapter respond to Jesus (the woman, Judas, the disciples, Peter, the religious leaders)?
3. What details stand out about Jesus' actions and words during the Last Supper, Gethsemane, and His arrest?
4. What does the woman's act of anointing Jesus reveal about worship, devotion, and sacrifice?
5. Why do the disciples fail despite their confidence and good intentions?
6. What does Jesus' prayer in Gethsemane teach us about obedience, suffering, and submission to the Father's will?

Mark 15

Why did people oppose Jesus ?

Mark 15

1. Why does Jesus remain silent before His accusers?
2. How do Pilate, the crowds, and the soldiers respond ?
3. Why does Jesus go willingly to the cross, and what does His suffering reveal about why He came ?
4. What is significant about the title placed above Jesus' cross ?
5. What does the tearing of the temple curtain show us ?
6. Why is the Roman centurion's statement, "Surely this man was the Son of God," interesting?
7. Throughout Mark 15, what does Jesus' death reveal about who He is, what He came to accomplish, and what response He calls for from His followers?

Mark 16

What makes something good news worth sharing?

Mark 16

1. Why are the women told, "He has risen; He is not here," and why is central in the message of the Gospel?
2. Why is Peter specifically mentioned, and what does this reveal about Jesus' grace toward those who have failed Him?
3. What emotions do the women experience at the tomb, and what do their reactions reveal about encountering the risen Christ?
4. How does Mark 16 bring together the major themes of the Gospel—Jesus' identity, His suffering, His death, discipleship, and His victory?
5. How does Mark 16 move the story from what Jesus has done to what His followers are now called to do?
6. What hope does the resurrection give to those who trust in Jesus today?

