

Gospel of Mark

An 8-Week Survey Study



BCM Leader's Guide – Week 1

Week 1: Mark 1:1–15

Big Idea: Jesus launches His ministry as the fulfillment of God's promises and calls for repentance and faith.

Leader's Goal: Help students see that Jesus is not just a teacher, but the divine Son of God who demands a response.

Text Summary

Mark begins his Gospel with a declaration of Jesus as the Son of God, directly linking Him to Old Testament prophecy. John the Baptist prepares the way, fulfilling Isaiah 40:3. Jesus is baptized, and the heavens open, revealing the Trinity: the Father speaks, the Spirit descends, and the Son is affirmed. His temptation in the wilderness mirrors Israel's story, but Jesus prevails. He begins His preaching with a simple but life-altering call: 'Repent and believe in the gospel.'

Leader Study Insights


- John the Baptist fulfills Isaiah 40:3, preparing the way for the Lord.
- Jesus' baptism shows His divine identity and introduces the Trinity.
- His temptation shows His obedience, contrasting with Adam and Israel.
- 'Repent and believe' is a call to turn from sin and trust in the Savior.

Application Focus


Application: As a student, consider what it means to 'repent and believe' today. Where in your life are you trusting Jesus' authority and message, and where are you holding back control?

Discussion Questions

- **How does Mark show us that Jesus is worthy of attention?**

 **Leader Prompt:** Draw out how Mark connects Jesus to prophecy and divine mission.

 **Follow-up:** Why do you think Mark skips over Jesus' birth story?

 **Cross Ref:** John 1:1–5

Sample Answer: Mark ties Jesus directly to Old Testament prophecy, highlighting His divine authority and mission.

Sample Answer: He introduces Jesus with urgency, declaring Him the Son of God.

Sample Answer: The rapid narrative invites readers to respond to Jesus immediately.

- **What ‘witnesses’ does Mark call upon to introduce Jesus, and why?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Help them see the link between prophecy and fulfillment.

💬 Follow-up: What does John’s humility teach us about our role?

📖 Cross Ref: Isaiah 40:3

Sample Answer: Isaiah and John the Baptist are key witnesses who point to Jesus’ identity.

Sample Answer: John fulfills his role by preparing people for Christ, not drawing attention to himself.

Sample Answer: Their testimony affirms Jesus as the promised Savior.

- **What is the message of Jesus, and how does it draw your attention to Him?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Emphasize the clarity and urgency of His call.

💬 Follow-up: How would students today define 'repent' or 'believe'?

📖 Cross Ref: Romans 1:16

Sample Answer: Jesus calls for repentance and belief as a response to the gospel.

Sample Answer: His message is simple but demands life change.

Sample Answer: It invites us into the kingdom of God with urgency.

- **According to the passage, what has Jesus come to do?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Guide them to see Jesus’ identity as King and Savior.

💬 Follow-up: How does His mission challenge cultural expectations of success?

📖 Cross Ref: Luke 4:18–19

Sample Answer: Jesus came to fulfill God’s promises and inaugurate His kingdom.

Sample Answer: He begins by proclaiming the gospel and defeating Satan.

Sample Answer: His baptism and temptation preview His redemptive work.

- **What is your own reaction to Jesus after reading this passage?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Invite personal responses and reflections on Jesus’ authority.

💬 Follow-up: What would it mean to follow Jesus more fully this week?

📖 Cross Ref: Colossians 1:15–20

Sample Answer: A sense of awe at who He is and what He came to do.

Sample Answer: Conviction to repent and follow Him more seriously.

Sample Answer: Encouragement to trust in His power over sin and Satan.

Leader Tips

- Keep the discussion moving. Spend 5–7 minutes per question.
- Ask follow-up questions when answers are short.
- Be vulnerable with your own need to repent and believe.
- Leave time for students to pray in response to the call of Jesus.
- Encourage Scripture memory: Mark 1:15 is a great verse to memorize this week.

BCM Leader's Guide – Week 2

Week 2: Mark 2:1–12

Big Idea: Jesus demonstrates divine authority to forgive sins and heals the broken to reveal His power.

Leader's Goal: Help students understand that Jesus' authority is not just physical but spiritual, and encourage them to trust Him with their deepest needs.

Text Summary

Jesus returns to Capernaum, where a paralyzed man is lowered through the roof by his friends. Before healing him, Jesus declares his sins forgiven, which provokes religious leaders who believe only God can do that. To confirm His authority, Jesus also heals the man physically. This passage reveals Jesus' divine identity and that spiritual healing is our deepest need.

Leader Study Insights


- Jesus sees both faith and need, not just physical condition.
- Declaring forgiveness is a bold claim of divinity.
- The healing proves that Jesus has authority on earth to forgive sins.
- Faithful friends can be a means of grace in someone's life.

Application Focus

Application: Jesus sees and meets our deepest need. Are you asking Him to change surface behaviors, or are you trusting Him to transform your heart at a deeper level?

Discussion Questions

- **What do you think is the most surprising thing Jesus does in this encounter?**

 Leader Prompt: Help students see the shock value of claiming to forgive sins.

💬 Follow-up: Why did Jesus prioritize forgiveness over physical healing?

📖 Cross Ref: Psalm 103:2–3

Sample Answer: Jesus forgives sins before healing, addressing the man's greatest need.

Sample Answer: It's unexpected and bold, especially in front of religious leaders.

Sample Answer: It shows that spiritual brokenness is more important than physical hardship.

• **If someone in a crowd of people said to you, 'Your sins are forgiven,' what would you and everyone else think of that person?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Explore how outrageous or blasphemous this would sound without divine authority.

💬 Follow-up: How do the scribes respond, and why?

📖 Cross Ref: Luke 5:21

Sample Answer: Most would think the person was arrogant, delusional, or blasphemous.

Sample Answer: Without divine authority, that claim has no basis.

Sample Answer: The religious leaders were furious because it challenged their theology.

• **How does Jesus demonstrate His claim to be able to forgive sins?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Lead students to connect visible healing with invisible authority.

💬 Follow-up: Why is healing a fitting confirmation of forgiveness?

📖 Cross Ref: Isaiah 35:5–6

Sample Answer: He heals the man physically to confirm His power to forgive.

Sample Answer: The miracle validates the claim to divine authority.

Sample Answer: Only someone who is divine could do both acts.

• **What difference do you think His authority should have in your own life?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Encourage personal reflection on submitting to Jesus' authority in all areas.

💬 Follow-up: Is there a part of your life where you're resisting His lordship?

📖 Cross Ref: Matthew 28:18

Sample Answer: His authority should reshape how I live, think, and relate to others.

Sample Answer: I can trust Him with both my sin and my struggles.

Sample Answer: Knowing His authority gives peace and confidence in daily life.

Leader Tips

- Ask a volunteer to summarize the story before diving into questions.
- Emphasize that forgiveness is not earned but received by faith.
- Challenge students to be like the friends...bringing others to Jesus.
- Use the healing as a bridge to talk about spiritual healing on campus.
- Suggest journaling how they've experienced Jesus' forgiveness.

BCM Leader's Guide – Week 3

Week 3: Mark 3:7–35

Big Idea: Jesus redefines family as those who do the will of God and reveals His authority over evil.

Leader's Goal: Help students understand that true belonging in God's family comes through obedience to His will, not heritage or reputation.

Text Summary

Jesus continues His ministry amid growing crowds and increasing opposition. The religious leaders accuse Him of being empowered by Satan. Jesus refutes them by explaining that a kingdom divided against itself cannot stand. He describes His mission as one that overcomes the 'strong man' (Satan). Meanwhile, His biological family comes to restrain Him, but Jesus teaches that those who do God's will are His true family.

Leader Study Insights


- Jesus faces both public admiration and strong opposition.
- The accusation of demonic power shows the hardness of religious leaders' hearts.
- Jesus is the stronger one who binds Satan and frees captives.
- True family is spiritual, not just biological.

Application Focus


Application: What does it look like for you to truly follow Jesus on campus this week? Are you part of His spiritual family by doing God's will in your daily life?

Discussion Questions

- **How do people react to Jesus today?**

 **Leader Prompt:** Invite examples from social media, classrooms, friend groups.

 Follow-up: Do you think people understand who Jesus really is?

 Cross Ref: John 1:10–12


Sample Answer: People still have mixed reactions...some follow, some resist, others are indifferent.


Sample Answer: Cultural views often distort or soften who Jesus really is.

Sample Answer: He challenges people's assumptions and demands a response.

• **What responses to Jesus do you see in this passage?**

 Leader Prompt: Highlight the variety: crowds, religious leaders, family.

 Follow-up: Why do some people accuse Him of evil?


 Cross Ref: Mark 3:21–22

Sample Answer: Some are amazed, others accuse, & even His family misunderstands Him.


Sample Answer: The religious leaders feel threatened by His authority.

Sample Answer: People often misjudge what they don't understand spiritually.

• **Why was Jesus' authoritative teaching a threat to the teachers of the law?**

 Leader Prompt: Explore how Jesus bypasses their systems of power.

 Follow-up: How do people today respond when their authority is questioned?


 Cross Ref: Luke 20:1–8

Sample Answer: Jesus exposed their hypocrisy and undermined their influence.

Sample Answer: They feared losing control over the people.

Sample Answer: His message of grace opposed their legalism.

• **What house is Jesus claiming to be overthrowing, and what could this mean for you?**

 Leader Prompt: Discuss spiritual warfare and liberation from sin.

 Follow-up: What does it mean to live in Jesus' kingdom?

 Cross Ref: Colossians 1:13–14

Sample Answer: Jesus is binding Satan's power and reclaiming lives.

Sample Answer: He is overthrowing the dominion of darkness.

Sample Answer: For me, it means Jesus wants to free me from sin and shame.

- **According to this passage, how do you become a part of Jesus' family?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Help students reflect on obedience and surrender.

💬 Follow-up: How does this change the way you see the church or your small group?

📖 Cross Ref: Romans 8:14–17

Sample Answer: By doing God's will and living in obedience to Christ.

Sample Answer: Faith in Jesus leads to spiritual adoption.

Sample Answer: Being part of God's family comes from grace, not works or birthright.

Leader Tips

- This week may be intense so be prepared to clarify spiritual warfare themes.
- Emphasize that belonging to Jesus redefines community and identity.
- Ask if anyone feels like an outsider and reassure them with Gospel truth.
- Model how obedience is a response to grace, not a way to earn love.

BCM Leader's Guide – Week 4

Week 4: Mark 8:22–38

Big Idea: Understanding Jesus as the Messiah requires spiritual clarity and results in costly discipleship.

Leader's Goal: Help students recognize the difference between knowing about Jesus and truly understanding His call to deny self and follow Him.

Text Summary

Jesus heals a blind man in two stages, illustrating the disciples' partial understanding of His identity. Peter correctly confesses Jesus as the Christ, but then rebukes Jesus when He predicts His suffering and death. Jesus challenges His followers to deny themselves, take up their cross, and follow Him—a path of surrender, not popularity.

Leader Study Insights

- Spiritual understanding often comes gradually, just like the blind man's healing.
- Peter's confession is sincere, but incomplete without embracing the cross.
- Jesus rebukes self-serving views of God's plan.
- Discipleship demands surrender, not self-promotion.

Application Focus

Application: Following Jesus means letting go of self-centered ambition and embracing a life of surrender and service. What is one way you can put that into practice this week?

Discussion Questions

- **What event takes place just before Peter's confession? Why do you think these two stories are placed next to each other?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Help students connect physical healing with spiritual understanding.

💬 Follow-up: How does Peter's reaction show he still didn't fully understand?

📖 Cross Ref: Mark 8:22-26

Sample Answer: Jesus heals a blind man in two stages symbolizing spiritual clarity.

Sample Answer: It illustrates that the disciples only partially understood Jesus' mission.

Sample Answer: It sets the stage for Peter's confession and misunderstanding.

- **How would you describe the healing of the blind man?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Highlight its uniqueness in two phases.

💬 Follow-up: What does this teach us about how Jesus works in people's lives?

📖 Cross Ref: John 9:1-7

Sample Answer: It's a gradual healing, reflecting stages of insight.

Sample Answer: Jesus works personally and intentionally with this man.

Sample Answer: It reminds us spiritual growth can be progressive.

- **How good is a partial understanding of Jesus?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Challenge the assumption that sincerity is enough.

💬 Follow-up: What are examples today of people partially understanding Jesus?

📖 Cross Ref: Luke 24:25-27

Sample Answer: It may be sincere but still fall short of full discipleship.

Sample Answer: Without the cross, we misunderstand who Jesus is.

Sample Answer: It can lead to resistance when Jesus' plan challenges ours.

- **According to Jesus, why does a follower of Christ have to 'deny himself' and 'lose his life'?**

🔑 **Leader Prompt:** Focus on surrender and true life found in Christ.

💬 **Follow-up:** How can students live this out on campus?

📖 **Cross Ref:** Galatians 2:20

Sample Answer: Because real life is found in surrender to Jesus, not self-rule.

Sample Answer: Self-denial aligns us with Jesus' purpose, not the world's.

Sample Answer: It's the only path to experiencing His kingdom fully.

Leader Tips

- Help students distinguish cultural Jesus from biblical Jesus.
- Emphasize that discipleship is a daily decision, not a one-time act.
- Invite personal stories of surrender and obedience.
- Reassure students that growth can be gradual and God is patient.

BCM Leader's Guide – Week 5

Week 5: Mark 10:17–45

Big Idea: True greatness in God's kingdom is marked by humility, not achievement.

Leader's Goal: Lead students to see that salvation is not earned, and greatness means serving others in Christ's name.

Text Summary

A rich young man asks Jesus how to inherit eternal life. Though moral, he is unwilling to part with his wealth. Jesus explains that salvation is impossible without God. Then, Jesus predicts His death a third time. The disciples still seek status, but Jesus redefines greatness as servanthood, pointing to His own sacrificial mission.

Leader Study Insights

- Good works can't earn eternal life...only surrender and trust in Jesus.
- Wealth can blind us to our need for grace.
- Jesus' followers still struggled with selfish ambition.
- Jesus redefines power as sacrificial service.

Application Focus

Application: What might be keeping you from fully following Jesus: achievement, relationships, comfort? Ask God to help you surrender that and pursue servant-hearted greatness.

Discussion Questions

- **Looking at verses 17–22, what would Jesus say is the basic character of people in the world?**

🔑 **Leader Prompt:** Help students contrast moral behavior with heart surrender.

💬 **Follow-up:** Why was the man unwilling to follow Jesus?

📖 **Cross Ref:** Jeremiah 17:9

Sample Answer: We often see ourselves as good, but Jesus reveals deeper idolatry.

Sample Answer: The young man obeyed commands but couldn't let go of wealth.

Sample Answer: Jesus exposes our hearts, not just our actions.

- **Do you think you can earn your salvation by being a good person?**

🔑 **Leader Prompt:** Discuss cultural assumptions about salvation.

💬 **Follow-up:** How does the gospel confront this mindset?

📖 **Cross Ref:** Ephesians 2:8–9

Sample Answer: No, salvation is a gift we receive, not a reward we achieve.

Sample Answer: Goodness is not enough if our hearts are far from God.

Sample Answer: Jesus makes it clear that only God can save.

- **According to verse 45, what is the purpose of Jesus' death?**

🔑 **Leader Prompt:** Explain 'ransom' in biblical context.

💬 **Follow-up:** How is Jesus different from worldly leaders?

📖 **Cross Ref:** Isaiah 53:5

Sample Answer: To give His life as a ransom for many.

Sample Answer: Jesus died to set sinners free from sin and judgment.

Sample Answer: His death was substitutionary...He took our place.

Leader Tips

- Ask students if they've ever felt they had to earn God's love.
- Challenge them to define 'success' in light of Jesus' teaching.
- Be sensitive—this week may bring up insecurities about identity.
- Reinforce that surrender is the beginning of freedom.

BCM Leader's Guide – Week 6

Week 6: Mark 14:53–15:15

Big Idea: Jesus endures unjust suffering and rejection in order to secure our salvation.

Leader's Goal: Help students reflect on how Jesus' silence and sacrifice fulfill prophecy and reveal His love.

Text Summary

Jesus is betrayed, arrested, and brought before religious leaders. False witnesses accuse Him, but He remains silent. When asked if He is the Christ, He affirms it, and they condemn Him. Peter denies Jesus, and Pilate, under pressure, releases Barabbas instead of Jesus. This moment showcases human sin and Jesus' substitutionary role.

Leader Study Insights


- Jesus' silence fulfills Isaiah 53 and shows submission to God's plan.
- Peter's denial reminds us of human weakness under pressure.
- The crowd's choice of Barabbas points to substitution.
- Jesus willingly takes the place of the guilty.


Application Focus

**Application: In moments of pressure or fear, do you stand with Jesus or blend in?
Pray for the boldness to live and speak openly about your faith.**

Discussion Questions

- **Can you see yourself in this passage? What would you be doing?**

 Leader Prompt: Invite honest reflection and empathy.

 Follow-up: Which character do you most relate to right now?

 Cross Ref: Romans 3:10–12

Sample Answer: I might be like Peter—wanting to stand for Jesus, but struggling with fear.

Sample Answer: It's easy to say I'd be bold, but pressure reveals my weakness.

Sample Answer: I see my need for grace in Peter's story.

• **What evidence is Mark presenting to prove that Jesus is the Christ?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Connect the silence and dignity of Jesus to prophecy.

💬 Follow-up: How does He respond differently than expected?

📖 Cross Ref: Isaiah 53:7–9

Sample Answer: He fulfills prophecy in His silence and suffering.

Sample Answer: His composure under trial sets Him apart.

Sample Answer: The injustice of the situation highlights His innocence.

Leader Tips

- Give space for quiet reflection—this passage is heavy.
- Remind students that failure isn't final with Jesus.
- Point to the hope in His sacrifice, not just the pain.
- Encourage journaling or prayer response after group.

BCM Leader's Guide – Week 7

Week 7: Mark 15:16–39

Big Idea: Jesus is the true King who suffers for sinners and opens the way to God.

Leader's Goal: Help students reflect on Jesus' crucifixion and respond with worship, repentance, and surrender.

Text Summary

In this passage, Jesus is mocked, beaten, and crucified. The soldiers sarcastically hail Him as 'King of the Jews' as He is crowned with thorns. Darkness covers the land. Jesus cries out in anguish using the words of Psalm 22. When He dies, the temple curtain tears in two, symbolizing direct access to God. A Roman centurion responds, 'Truly this man was the Son of God.'

Leader Study Insights

- Jesus is mocked as a King, but He truly reigns from the cross.
- His cry from Psalm 22 shows real anguish but also faith.
- The torn curtain symbolizes open access to God through Jesus.
- The centurion's confession completes the Gospel arc from Mark 1:1.

Application Focus

Application: Reflect on where you seek significance. Do you boast in success, grades, or popularity? Let the message of the cross reshape what success looks like for you.

Discussion Questions

• How is Jesus portrayed as a King in this passage?

🔑 Leader Prompt: Help students see both the mockery and the irony.

💬 Follow-up: What kind of King is Jesus compared to worldly leaders?

📖 Cross Ref: Philippians 2:5–11

Sample Answer: He's crowned with thorns and mocked, yet truly reigns from the cross.

Sample Answer: His kingdom is not of this world, it's built on sacrifice.

Sample Answer: He redefines kingship through humility and love.

• What is the significance of Jesus quoting Psalm 22 from the cross?

🔑 Leader Prompt: Guide students to read the beginning and end of Psalm 22.

💬 Follow-up: How does this help us understand His suffering?

📖 Cross Ref: Psalm 22:1, 22–31

Sample Answer: It expresses real pain, but also faith in God's deliverance.

Sample Answer: It shows Jesus' deep identification with the afflicted.

Sample Answer: The psalm ends in victory pointing to resurrection hope.

• What does the tearing of the temple curtain symbolize?

🔑 Leader Prompt: Connect it to access to God.

💬 Follow-up: How does this impact how we relate to God today?

📖 Cross Ref: Hebrews 10:19–22

Sample Answer: It means the barrier between God and humanity is removed.

Sample Answer: Through Jesus' death, we can now come directly to God.

Sample Answer: It fulfills the purpose of the temple in Jesus Himself.

• What is the importance of the centurion's statement at the end?

🔑 Leader Prompt: Note his Roman identity and role.

💬 Follow-up: Why is it significant that he's the first to say this in Mark?


 Cross Ref: Mark 1:1


Sample Answer: He sees Jesus' divinity clearly through the cross.


Sample Answer: It shows that even outsiders can recognize Jesus' identity.

Sample Answer: It brings the Gospel full circle from its opening statement.

• **How does the cross reshape our understanding of greatness?**

 Leader Prompt: Challenge common success narratives.

 Follow-up: How does the cross redefine identity and purpose?

 Cross Ref: 1 Corinthians 1:18

Sample Answer: True greatness is found in sacrifice and love.

Sample Answer: The cross humbles our pride and reveals our need.

Sample Answer: It gives us freedom to serve without needing status.

Leader Tips

- Allow time for reflection. This passage is heavy but rich.
- Help students see that the cross is both brutal and beautiful.
- Emphasize that Christ died willingly for them.
- Use Psalm 22 as a prayer or group reading.

BCM Leader's Guide – Week 8

Week 8: Mark 16:1–8

Big Idea: The resurrection of Jesus changes everything and invites us into a mission of faith.

Leader's Goal: Lead students to respond personally to the resurrection and consider how to live as witnesses to the risen Christ.

Text Summary

Early Sunday morning, several women go to Jesus' tomb and find the stone rolled away. A young man dressed in white tells them that Jesus has risen and is no longer there. He instructs them to tell the disciples and Peter that Jesus is going ahead of them to Galilee. The women flee in fear and silence. Mark ends the narrative here, with awe and urgency, leaving the reader to consider their own response to the empty tomb.

Leader Study Insights

- The resurrection validates Jesus' identity and His victory over death.

- Women are honored as first witnesses, showing God's grace and kingdom reversal.
- Peter's mention signals restoration after denial.
- The abrupt ending leaves readers with a choice: respond or retreat.

Application Focus

Application: Jesus is alive. How would your priorities shift this week if you truly lived like He was reigning as Lord on your campus right now?

Discussion Questions

- **Why do you think the women were the first to witness the resurrection?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Highlight the grace and reversal in God's kingdom.

💬 Follow-up: What does this teach us about who God uses?

📖 Cross Ref: Luke 8:1–3

Sample Answer: God elevates the humble and overlooked.

Sample Answer: Women were faithful followers and are honored here.

Sample Answer: It shows the Gospel is for all people, not the powerful only.

- **What does it mean that the angel mentioned Peter by name?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Connect it to Peter's failure and Jesus' grace.

💬 Follow-up: How have you experienced restoration from failure?

📖 Cross Ref: Mark 14:66–72

Sample Answer: Peter is singled out for grace, not shame.

Sample Answer: It shows Jesus' desire to restore, not reject.

Sample Answer: We are not defined by our worst moments.

- **Why do you think Mark ends his Gospel so abruptly?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Invite reflection on the tone and purpose.

💬 Follow-up: What response do you think Mark is trying to stir in us?

📖 Cross Ref: Mark 1:1; 16:8

Sample Answer: It creates urgency and suspense—what will *you* do now?

Sample Answer: It leaves the door open for us to continue the mission.

Sample Answer: The Gospel calls for faith, not just admiration.

- **What does the resurrection mean for our lives today?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Help students make personal connections.

💬 Follow-up: How does it give you hope or boldness?

📖 Cross Ref: 1 Peter 1:3–5

Sample Answer: It gives us hope beyond death.

Sample Answer: It proves that Jesus has authority over everything.

Sample Answer: It means we can live without fear, knowing Jesus lives.

• **How can we live as resurrection witnesses on campus?**

🔑 Leader Prompt: Make it practical and missional.

💬 Follow-up: What would it look like to carry this message to others?

📖 Cross Ref: Matthew 28:6–7

Sample Answer: By sharing our hope and joy with others.

Sample Answer: By living with boldness, not fear.

Sample Answer: By inviting others into the story of the risen King.

Leader Tips

- Encourage celebration...Jesus is alive!
- Ask students how resurrection hope changes their week.
- Challenge them to live on mission just like the women were told to go.
- Consider ending with communion or personal prayer time.

Gospel of Mark

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Participant Handouts

Week 1: Mark 1:1–15

Big Idea: Jesus launches His ministry as the fulfillment of God's promises and calls for repentance and faith.

Discussion Questions:

- • How does Mark show us that Jesus is worthy of attention?
- • What 'witnesses' does Mark call upon to introduce Jesus, and why?
- • What is the message of Jesus, and how does it draw your attention to Him?
- • According to the passage, what has Jesus come to do?
- • What is your own reaction to Jesus after reading this passage?

Reflection/Application:

Notes:

Week 2: Mark 2:1–12

Big Idea: Jesus demonstrates divine authority to forgive sins and heals the broken to reveal His power.

Discussion Questions:

- • What do you think is the most surprising thing Jesus does in this encounter?
- • If someone in a crowd of people said to you, 'Your sins are forgiven,' what would you and everyone else think of that person?
- • How does Jesus demonstrate His claim to be able to forgive sins?
- • What difference do you think His authority should have in your own life?

Reflection/Application:

Notes:

Week 3: Mark 3:7–35

Big Idea: Jesus redefines family as those who do the will of God and reveals His authority over evil.

Discussion Questions:

- • How do people react to Jesus today?
- • What responses to Jesus do you see in this passage?
- • Why was Jesus' authoritative teaching a threat to the teachers of the law?
- • What house is Jesus claiming to be overthrowing, and what could this mean for you?
- • According to this passage, how do you become a part of Jesus' family?

Reflection/Application:

Notes:

Week 4: Mark 8:22–38

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Discussion Questions:

- • What event takes place just before Peter's confession? Why do you think these two stories are placed next to each other?
- • How would you describe the healing of the blind man?
- • How good is a partial understanding of Jesus?
- • According to Jesus, why does a follower of Christ have to 'deny himself' and 'lose his life'?

Reflection/Application:

Notes:

Week 5: Mark 10:17–45

Big Idea: True greatness in God's kingdom is marked by humility, not achievement.

Discussion Questions:

- Looking at verses 17–22, what would Jesus say is the basic character of people in the world?
- Do you think you can earn your salvation by being a good person?
- According to verse 45, what is the purpose of Jesus' death?

Reflection/Application:

Notes:

Week 6: Mark 14:53–15:15

Big Idea: Jesus endures unjust suffering and rejection in order to secure our salvation.

Discussion Questions:

- Can you see yourself in this passage? What would you be doing?
- What evidence is Mark presenting to prove that Jesus is the Christ?

Reflection/Application:

Notes:

Week 7: Mark 15:16–39

Big Idea: Jesus is the true King who suffers for sinners and opens the way to God.

Discussion Questions:

- • How is Jesus portrayed as a King in this passage?
- • What is the significance of Jesus quoting Psalm 22 from the cross?
- • What does the tearing of the temple curtain symbolize?
- • What is the importance of the centurion's statement at the end?
- • How does the cross reshape our understanding of greatness?

Reflection/Application:

Notes:

Week 8: Mark 16:1–8

Big Idea: The resurrection of Jesus changes everything and invites us into a mission of faith.

Discussion Questions:

- • Why do you think the women were the first to witness the resurrection?
- • What does it mean that the angel mentioned Peter by name?
- • Why do you think Mark ends his Gospel so abruptly?
- • What does the resurrection mean for our lives today?
- • How can we live as resurrection witnesses on campus?

Reflection/Application:

Notes: