

The Gospel Of Mark



A Study Guide With Introductory Comments, Summaries, And Review Questions

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The outlines were developed in the course of my ministry as a preacher of the gospel. Feel free to use them as they are, or adapt them to suit your own personal style.

To God Be The Glory!

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The Gospel Of Mark

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This study guide was designed for adult Bible classes, though it might be suitable for junior and senior high classes as well. Some have used it for personal devotions, and others in small study groups.

- **Points to ponder** for each chapter are things I emphasize during the class.
- **Review questions** are intended to reinforce key thoughts in each chapter. That you might know what answers were intended by the questions, I have included them in this guide. There is a “student edition” available online with answers deleted.

The Gospel Of Mark

Introduction

"The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God..."

So begins the Gospel according to Mark, the shortest of the four gospels, likely the first one written. It is often overlooked because of the gospels of Matthew and Luke. Yet the Believer's Bible Commentary notes that because of its brevity, Mark's gospel is an ideal introduction to the Christian faith. In mission fields it is often the first book translated into a new language.

Who was Mark? What makes his gospel unique? Let's start with the...

Author

The early and unanimous opinion is that **John Mark** wrote this gospel. His mother was Mary, who had a large house in Jerusalem (**Ac 12:12**). Some speculate the Last Supper took place in her home (Robertson's Word Pictures), also that Mark may have been the young man who fled naked (**Mk 14:51-52**). His cousin was Barnabas, a Levite from Cyprus (**Ac 4:36-37; Col 4:10**).

Mark traveled with Paul and Barnabas on their first missionary journey, but turned back (**Ac 13:5,13**). This caused trouble between Paul and Barnabas (**Ac 15:36-41**), though he later became a fellow laborer and comfort to Paul (**Phm 1:24; Col 4:10-11**). In Paul's final words, he wrote that Mark proved "useful to me for ministry" (**2Ti 4:11**).

Mark also accompanied Peter, who called him "his son" (his convert?) and who was in "Babylon" (Rome?) at the time (**1Pe 5:13**). Traditions outside the Bible state that Mark was an interpreter for Peter (Papias, 130 A.D.), and that Mark composed his gospel mostly from Peter's memoirs (Justin Martyr, 150 A.D.).

Date

According to tradition, Mark went to Alexandria in Egypt where he died in 64 A.D. Barnes suggests the book was written between 56 and 63 A.D., and other scholars date the book in the early 50's. A plausible date would be **57-59 A.D.** (Bible Knowledge Commentary).

Theme

Mark's gospel was evidently written to **Gentiles**, perhaps **Christians in Rome** (BKC); note the following:

- Jewish customs are explained - **Mk 7:3-4**
- Aramaic expresses are translated into Greek - **Mk 3:17; 5:41; 7:11**
- Roman reckoning of time is used - **Mk 6:48; 13:35**
- Only Mark identifies Simon of Cyrene as the father of Rufus - **Mk 15:21; Ro 16:13**
- Few OT quotations are used

The focus appears to be on Jesus as the Perfect Servant (BBC). Mark emphasizes the deeds

of the Lord more than His words (he records nineteen miracles, but only four parables), the deeds of one who “did not come to be served, but to serve” (**Mk 10:45**). Thus one could say that the theme of Mark’s gospel is:

“Jesus, Servant of Man”

Special Characteristics

It is an early gospel. Probably the first gospel written. All but 31 verses are quoted in the other gospels, leading many to conclude that Matthew and Luke used Mark’s gospel as source material.

It is a concise gospel. The shortest of the four gospels. Luke has 1151 verses, Matthew 1071, John 879, Mark 661. Mark’s entire gospel can be read aloud in 1.5 hours.

It is a fast-paced gospel. Over 40 times he uses a word translated “straightway” or “immediately.” Two-thirds of the verses begin with “and”. The present tense is used frequently (e.g., they come...He says...He sends...).

It is a vivid gospel. Mark presents “lively little touches” not found in the other gospels (Hendriksen). “...he wrote with all the graphic distinctiveness and vividness of an eyewitness” (Erdman). It may have been Peter’s reminiscences, or perhaps his own, that account for such details.

It is an evangelistic gospel. It opens with “The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ...” (**Mk 1:1**), and closes with “Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature” (**Mk 16:15**).

Outline

A simple outline of the book:

1. The preparation for Jesus' ministry - **Mk 1:1-13**
2. His ministry in Galilee - **Mk 1:14-9:50**
3. His journey to Jerusalem - **Mk 10:1-52**
4. His ministry in Jerusalem - **Mk 11:1-13:37**
5. His suffering and death in Jerusalem - **Mk 14:1-15:47**
6. His resurrection and appearances - **Mk 16:1-13**
7. His great commission and continued work from heaven - **Mk 16:14-20**

Jesus came from heaven to serve, and returned to heaven to serve!

Review Questions

- 1) Who authored the gospel of Mark?**
 - John Mark, son of Mary, cousin of Barnabas
 - An acquaintance of both Paul and Peter
- 2) Approximately when was the book written?**
 - Sometime in the 50’s, perhaps 57-59 A.D.

3) What has been suggested as the theme of Mark's gospel?

- Jesus, Servant of Man

4) What five characteristics of the gospel were noted in the introduction?

- It is an early gospel
- It is a concise gospel
- It is a fast-paced gospel
- It is a vivid gospel
- It is an evangelistic gospel

5) List the seven sections of the gospel as indicated in the outline

- The preparation for Jesus' ministry
- His ministry in Galilee
- His journey to Jerusalem
- His ministry in Jerusalem
- His suffering and death in Jerusalem
- His resurrection and appearances
- His great commission and continued work from heaven

The Gospel Of Mark

Chapter One

Mark begins his gospel with the ministry of John the Baptist (1-8), followed by Jesus' baptism by John and temptation by Satan (9-11). Jesus began his own ministry in Galilee, proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom of God (12-15). Selecting four fishermen to become His disciples (16-20), He went to Capernaum where He taught in the synagogue and cast out an unclean spirit (21-28). At the house of Simon (Peter) and Andrew, Jesus healed Peter's mother-in-law, and after sunset healed many more (29-34). The next morning after spending time in prayer, Jesus started an itinerant ministry of preaching in the synagogues throughout Galilee, casting out demons and healing a leper (35-45).

Points To Ponder

- The concise, fast-paced nature of Mark's gospel
- The meaning of the phrase, "The time is fulfilled, kingdom of God is at hand"
- The purpose of the miracles of healing that Jesus performed

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The ministry of John the Baptist - **Mk 1:1-8**
 - The baptism and temptation of Jesus - **Mk 1:9-13**
 - The beginning of Jesus' ministry in Galilee - **Mk 1:14-45**
- 2) What prophecies did John the Baptist fulfill? (2-3)**
 - Malachi 3:1; Isaiah 40:3
- 3) What did John preach? What did he promise? (4,8)**
 - A baptism of repentance for the remission of sins
 - The coming of One who would baptize with the Holy Spirit
- 4) What two events led to the beginning of Jesus' ministry? (9-13)**
 - His baptism by John; His temptation by Satan
- 5) What message did Jesus proclaim as He began His ministry? (14-15)**
 - "The time is fulfilled...the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent...believe in the gospel."
- 6) Who were selected to become His disciples? (16-20)**
 - Four fishermen: Simon and his brother Andrew, James and his brother John
- 7) What miracles does Mark record as Jesus began His ministry in Galilee? (21-45)**
 - Casting out an unclean spirit in the synagogue at Capernaum
 - Healing the mother-in-law of Simon (Peter) of a fever
 - Healing many who were sick of various diseases, and casting out demons
 - Cleansing a leper who came to Him

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Chapter Two

Returning to Capernaum, Jesus demonstrated His power to forgive sins by healing a paralytic (1-12). After teaching by the sea, Jesus called Levi (Matthew) to follow Him and later dined at his house with tax collectors and sinners (13-17). Jesus is questioned about fasting by disciples of both John and the Pharisees (18-22), and later challenged by the Pharisees because His disciples plucked grain to eat on the Sabbath (23-28).

Points To Ponder

- Jesus' power to forgive sins, and His association with sinners
- Jesus' comments regarding fasting, and His authority regarding the Sabbath

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Jesus forgives and heals a paralytic - **Mk 2:1-12**
 - The call of Levi (Matthew) and the feast at his house - **Mk 2:13-17**
 - Jesus questioned about fasting and the Sabbath - **Mk 2:18-28**
- 2) Where did Jesus return following his ministry throughout Galilee? (1)**
 - To Capernaum, from where He had begun (cf. **Mk 1:21**)
- 3) How did Jesus demonstrate His power to forgive sins? (9-11)**
 - By healing a man who was paralyzed
- 4) What was the reaction following the healing of the paralytic? (12)**
 - All were amazed and glorified God, saying, "We never saw anything like this!"
- 5) Who did Jesus call to follow Him? What immediately followed? (14-15)**
 - Levi, also known as Matthew (cf. **Mt 9:9**); a feast at Levi's house
- 6) How did Jesus justify eating with tax collectors and sinners? (16-17)**
 - "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick"
 - "I did not come to call the righteous, but sinners, to repentance"
- 7) What did Jesus teach about His disciples fasting? (19-22)**
 - The time was not right for them to fast; but the time for fasting would come
 - A time for change was nigh ("New wine must be put in new wineskins")
- 8) What did the disciples of Jesus do that was challenged by the Pharisees? (23-24)**
 - They were plucking heads of grain on the Sabbath
- 9) What three arguments did Jesus make in defense of His disciples? (25-28)**
 - 1) The example of David and his men eating the showbread; 2) The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath; 3) The Son of Man is Lord of the Sabbath

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Chapter Three

Jesus healed on the Sabbath, giving rise to plots on His life and later accused of healing by the power of the devil (1-6,22-30). His popularity with the multitude continued, and twelve apostles are appointed to preach and heal (7-19). Concern by friends and family gave Jesus opportunity to identify His true family as those who do the will of God (20-21,31-35).

Points To Ponder

- Increasing opposition, popularity of the crowds, concern of friends and family
- The blasphemy of the Holy Spirit, and the true family of Jesus

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Jesus heals on the Sabbath - **Mk 3:1-6**
 - Ministering to the multitudes - **Mk 3:7-12**
 - Selection of twelve apostles - **Mk 3:13-19**
 - Concern of friends, accusation by scribes - **Mk 3:20-30**
 - The true family of Jesus - **Mk 3:31-35**
- 2) How did Jesus respond to the charge against healing on the Sabbath? (4)**
 - "Is it lawful on the Sabbath to do good or to do evil, to save life or to kill?"
- 3) Who began to plot to destroy Jesus? (6)**
 - The Pharisees together with the Herodians
- 4) Where did the multitude come from that followed Jesus? (7-8)**
 - Galilee, Judea, Jerusalem, Idumea, beyond the Jordan, Tyre, Sidon
- 5) Why did Jesus appoint twelve disciples (apostles)? (13-15)**
 - To be with Him, then send them out to preach, heal sicknesses, cast out demons
- 6) What did some of Jesus' own people think about Him? (21)**
 - That He was out of His mind
- 7) How did Jesus reply to casting out demons by the power of Satan? (22-27)**
 - "How can Satan cast out Satan?"
 - A kingdom (house) divided against itself cannot stand
- 8) What does Mark define as the "unpardonable sin"? (28-30)**
 - Blaspheming the Holy Spirit by accusing Jesus of having an unclean spirit
- 9) Who does Jesus describe as His true family? (33-35)**
 - Whoever does the will of God is His brother, sister, and mother

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Chapter Four

From a boat facing a great multitude on the shore of the Sea of Galilee Jesus taught many parables, such as the parable of The Soils (1-9). Privately, Jesus explained why He taught in parables (10-12), and then revealed the meaning of the parable of The Soils (13-20). Mark goes on to record several other parables: The Lamp (21-25), The Growing Seed (26-29), and The Mustard Seed (30-32). Jesus cautioned the masses to give heed to the parables, but only in private did He tell His disciple what they meant (9,23-25,33-34). At evening, as they crossed the Sea of Galilee, Jesus calmed the stormy winds and waves, much to the amazement of His disciples (35-41).

Points To Ponder

- The purpose and primary theme of the parables of Jesus
- The importance of listening when given opportunity to hear the Word
- The inverse relationship between fear and faith

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The parable of The Soils - **Mk 4:1-20**
 - The parables of The Lamp, The Growing Seed, The Mustard Seed - **Mk 4:21-34**
 - The calming of the winds and waves on the Sea of Galilee - **Mk 4:35-41**
- 2) What was the first parable of Jesus recorded by Mark? (3-9)**
 - The parable of The Soils (also known as the parable of The Sower)
- 3) What exhortation did Jesus give after telling the parable? Why? (9,23-25)**
 - "He who has ears to hear, let him hear!"
 - One would be judged by how he listened; giving heed would grant more opportunity
- 4) Why did Jesus speak in parables? (10-12, cf. Mt 13:11-16)**
 - Because many who heard Jesus were not really interested in truth
- 5) To whom did Jesus explain the parables? Where? (10,33-34)**
 - To the twelve; in private
- 6) What was the main theme of the parables? (11, cf. Mt 13:11)**
 - The mysteries of the kingdom of God
- 7) What miracle did Jesus perform in this chapter? (35-39)**
 - He calmed the wind and waves on the Sea of Galilee
- 8) To what did Jesus attribute the disciples' fear of the storm? (40)**
 - Their lack of faith

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Chapter Five

After calming the storm, Jesus and His disciples disembarked on the coast of the Gadarenes (Gerasenes), located between the Jordan River and eastern shore of the Sea of Galilee (1). Jesus healed a man possessed and tormented by a legion of demons, only to be begged by the residents to leave. The man who was healed, however, went on to proclaim in Decapolis all that Jesus had done (2-20). Sailing over to the other side of the Sea, Jesus raised to life the daughter of Jairus, a ruler of the synagogue (21-24,35-43), along the way healing a woman who suffered a flow of blood for twelve years (25-34).

Points To Ponder

- The demons acknowledgement of Jesus as “Son of the Most High God”
- The irrational fear of the people of the Gadarenes
- Why Jesus permitted the man healed of demon possession to tell others what He had done, but wanted the raising of Jairus’ daughter kept secret

Review Questions

- 1) **What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - A demon-possessed man healed - **Mk 5:1-20**
 - Jairus’ daughter raised to life - **Mk 5:21-24,35-43**
 - Woman healed of a flow of blood - **Mk 5:25-34**
- 2) **Where did Jesus and His disciples disembark after the storm was calmed? (1-2)**
 - On the coast of the Gadarenes (Gerasenes), along the SE coast of the Sea of Galilee
- 3) **What miracle(s) did Jesus perform at that place? (2-13)**
 - Healed a demon-possessed man, casting the legion of demons into a herd of swine
- 4) **How did the swine react? The residents of that place? The healed man? (14-20)**
 - Ran off a cliff, drowning in the sea; asked Jesus to leave; proclaimed Jesus in Decapolis
- 5) **Where then did Jesus and His disciples go? (21)**
 - Across the sea by boat to the other side, where a great multitude gathered to Him
- 6) **Who came to Jesus, asking Him to come and heal his dying daughter? (21-24)**
 - Jairus, one of rulers of the synagogue
- 7) **Who did Jesus heal along the way? (25-34)**
 - A woman who hemorrhaged for twelve years, who touched the hem of His garment
- 8) **After Jesus raised the ruler’s daughter, what two commands did He give? (35-43)**
 - Not to tell anyone about it; to give the young girl something to eat

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Chapter Six

Jesus returned to His home of Nazareth to an unreceptive audience, but continued teaching in the surrounding villages (1-6). He then sent out the Twelve with power to exorcise demons and to heal, with a commission to preach repentance (7-13). About this time John the Baptist was imprisoned and beheaded by King Herod (14-29). Soon after the Twelve returned from their healing and preaching ministry, Jesus fed over 5000 people with five loaves and two fish (30-44). Sending His disciples to sail toward Bethsaida, Jesus prayed on a mountain and then walked on the sea to His disciples in their boat (45-52). After arriving at the land of Gennesaret, people brought their sick wherever He was. As many as touched Jesus were healed (53-56).

Points To Ponder

- The reception of Jesus in His home town of Nazareth
- The success of the Twelve and of Jesus in their respective healing ministries
- The courage of John the Baptist to preach God's truth on divorce and remarriage

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Jesus rejected at Nazareth - **Mk 6:1-6**
 - The twelve apostles sent on a limited commission - **Mk 6:7-13**
 - John the Baptist beheaded by King Herod - **Mk 6:14-29**
 - Feeding the five thousand - **Mk 6:30-44**
 - Jesus walks on the Sea - **Mk 6:45-52**
 - Many touch Him and are made well - **Mk 6:53-56**
- 2) Why was Jesus rejected at Nazareth? (2-3)**
 - They allowed their familiarity of Him and His family prejudice themselves against Him
- 3) What did the Twelve apostles do on their Limited Commission? (12-13)**
 - They preached that people should repent, cast out demons, and healed many sick
- 4) Why did Herod arrest John the Baptist? Who prompted Herod to kill him? (14-29)**
 - Because John told Herod he had an unlawful marriage; Herodias and her daughter
- 5) When Jesus fed a large multitude, how many were there and with what? (38,44)**
 - 5000 men; five loaves and two fish
- 6) When Jesus walked on the sea, what were His disciples' reactions? (49-51)**
 - First fear, thinking Him to be a ghost; then amazement, as they marveled at Him
- 7) How successful were those who begged to touch the hem of Jesus' garment (56)**
 - As many as touched Him were healed

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Chapter Seven

Religious leaders from Jerusalem took issue with Jesus' disciples' failure to observe certain traditions, which led Jesus to warn against the danger of traditions and what causes true moral defilement (1-23). After a quick trip to the region of Tyre and Sidon where He healed a Syro-Phoenician woman's daughter (24-30), Jesus made His way through the region of Decapolis to the Sea of Galilee where He healed a deaf-mute (31-37).

Points To Ponder

- The danger of traditions and vain worship
- That which causes true moral defilement

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Debate over tradition and moral defilement - **Mk 7:1-23**
 - Jesus heals a Syro-Phoenician woman's daughter - **Mk 7:24-30**
 - Jesus heals a deaf-mute - **Mk 7:31**
- 2) What tradition of the elders had Jesus' disciples transgressed? (1-5)**
 - Eating with unwashed hands
- 3) According to Jesus, when do traditions of men become wrong? (6-13)**
 - When one teaches as doctrine (that which is binding) a commandment of men
 - When one keeps a tradition of man instead of a commandment of God
- 4) When does worship become vain? (7)**
 - When worship is based on the teachings of men rather than of God
- 5) What constitutes true moral defilement? (14-23)**
 - That which comes out of the mouth, i.e., evil thoughts and deeds from the heart
- 6) What moved Jesus to grant the Syro-Phoenician woman's request? (26-29)**
 - Saying little dogs eat the children's crumbs; also, her great faith - cf. Mt 15:28
- 7) How did Jesus heal the deaf-mute? (33-34)**
 - Put His fingers in his ears, spat and touched his tongue, saying "Be opened."
- 8) After healing the deaf-mute, what did Jesus command? Did they heed? (36)**
 - That they should tell no one
 - No, the more He commanded them, the more widely they proclaimed it
- 9) What did those who were astonished say about Jesus? (37)**
 - "He has done all things well."

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Chapter Eight

Once again Jesus fed a large multitude, about 4000 with seven loaves. He then sailed to Dalmanutha (Magdala) on the western shore of the Sea of Galilee (**1-10**). Challenged by the Pharisees for a sign, Jesus refused and sailed with His disciples to the other side of the Sea. He used the disciples' failure to bring sufficient bread to warn them about the leaven of the Pharisees and Herod, which they failed to understand (**11-21**). Arriving at Bethsaida (northeast of where the Jordan flows into the Sea), Jesus healed a blind man (**22-26**). Then near Caesarea Philippi, Jesus asked His disciples who people thought He was. When He asked the disciples who they themselves thought He was, Peter confessed Him to be the Christ (**27-30**). Jesus then foretold His death and resurrection, rebuking Peter after he had rebuked Jesus for saying such things (**31-33**). Jesus then called the people and His disciples to Himself, and spoke to them about the cost (and reward) of following Him (**34-38**).

Points To Ponder

- The slowness of His disciples to understand
- The cost and reward of discipleship

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The feeding of the four thousand - **Mk 8:1-10**
 - Pharisees denied a sign, Jesus warns of their leaven - **Mk 8:11-21**
 - Blind man healed at Bethsaida - **Mk 8:22-26**
 - Peter confesses Jesus as the Christ - **Mk 8:27-30**
 - Jesus foretells His death and resurrection - **Mk 8:31-33**
 - The cost and reward of discipleship - **Mk 8:34-38**
- 2) List the two miracles recorded in this chapter (1-10,22-26)**
 - Jesus feeds 4000 with seven loaves; Jesus heals a blind man at Bethsaida
- 3) List the geographic places Jesus visited in this chapter (10,22,27)**
 - The region of Dalmanutha (Magdala), Bethsaida, the towns of Caesarea Philippi
- 4) When Jesus warned of the leaven, what did He mean? (15; cf. Mt 16:12)**
 - The doctrine of the Pharisees
- 5) Who did people say Jesus was? What did Peter say? (27-29)**
 - John the Baptist, Elijah, or one of the prophets; but Peter said "You are the Christ"
- 6) What is the cost of discipleship? (34)**
 - One must deny self, take up their cross, and follow Jesus
- 7) What is the reward of discipleship? (35-38)**
 - The salvation of one's soul, which is greater than gaining the whole world

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Chapter Nine

The events recorded in this chapter begin with Jesus transfigured on the mountain (1-13), referenced later by Peter in his epistle (2Pe 1:16-18). Afterward Jesus healed a demon-possessed boy when His disciples were unable due to a lack of faith and prayer (14-29). Back in Galilee, Jesus once again predicted His death and resurrection (30-32). Upon arriving in Capernaum, Jesus taught the need for child-like humility (33-37), to beware of sectarianism (38-41), the danger of offenses to others and to self (42-48), the seasoning effect of fire and salt, concluding with a call to have peace with one another (49-50).

Points To Ponder

- The significance of the transfiguration
- The need for humility
- The danger of sectarianism
- The warnings against causing others or yourself to sin
- The seasoning effect of “fire” and “salt”, and being at peace with one another

Review Questions

- 1) **What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Jesus transfigured on the mountain - **Mk 9:1-13**
 - Jesus heals a demon-possessed boy - **Mk 9:14-29**
 - Jesus predicts His resurrection a second time - **Mk 9:30-32**
 - Jesus teaches on various topics in Capernaum - **Mk 9:33-50**
- 2) **Who witnessed the transfiguration of Jesus? Who appeared with Him? (2,4)**
 - Peter, James, and John - Elijah and Moses
- 3) **What did the voice in the cloud proclaim concerning Jesus? (7)**
 - “This is My beloved Son. Hear Him!”
- 4) **When Jesus said “Elijah has also come”, who did He refer to? (13, Mt 17:10-13)**
 - John the Baptist
- 5) **Why could the disciples not heal the demon-possessed boy? (28-29)**
 - Their lack of faith
- 6) **How did the disciples’ react when Jesus predicted His death & resurrection? (32)**
 - They did not understand and were afraid to ask Him
- 7) **What topics did Jesus teach in Capernaum? (33-50)**
 - The need for child-like humility
 - To beware of sectarianism
 - The danger of offenses to others and to self
 - The seasoning effect of “fire” and “salt”
 - To be at peace with one another

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Chapter Ten

Arriving in Judea, Jesus is questioned by Pharisees on the subject of divorce (1-12). Little children were brought for Him to bless and Jesus did so over initial objections of His own disciples, teaching them the value of childlike reception of the kingdom of God (13-16). When a rich young ruler questioned Him concerning eternal life (17-22), He used the occasion to teach His disciples about riches in relation to the kingdom of God (23-31). For a third time (cf. **Mk 8:31-33; 9:30-32**) Jesus predicted His death and resurrection (32-34), then used a request by James and John to teach His apostles the value of servitude (35-45). Leaving Jericho, Jesus healed blind Bartimaeus (46-52).

Points To Ponder

- Jesus' doctrine related to marriage and divorce
- Childlike humility and the servant mindset as attributes in the kingdom
- Possessions and rewards in reference to the kingdom of God

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - Jesus teaches on marriage and divorce – **Mk 10:1-12**
 - Jesus blesses little children – **Mk 10:13-16**
 - Jesus speaks on riches in relation to the kingdom of God – **Mk 10:17-31**
 - Jesus predicts His death and resurrection for the third time – **Mk 10:32-34**
 - Jesus explains the value of servitude to His apostles – **Mk 10:35-45**
 - Jesus heals blind Bartimaeus – **Mk 10:46-52**
- 2) What did Jesus teach concerning marriage and divorce? (9,11-12)**
 - What God has joined together, let not man separate
 - Whoever divorces and remarries, commits adultery (with one exception, cf. **Mt 19:9**)
- 3) How should one receive the kingdom of God, and be great in it? (15,42-45)**
 - As a little child, to serve others like the Son of Man came to serve and give His life
- 4) Why is it hard for those who are rich to enter the kingdom of God? Does it mean rich Christians can't be saved? (24-27)**
 - They're more likely to trust in riches. Not if riches are used properly (cf. **1Ti 6:17-19**)
- 5) What blessings are for those willing to forsake all if necessary? (29-30)**
 - A hundredfold houses, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, lands, and eternal life
- 6) What did Jesus predict would happen to Him? (32-34)**
 - Betrayal, being mocked, scourged, and killed, but rising again on the third day
- 7) What persistent man did Jesus heal of blindness? (46-52)**
 - Bartimaeus

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Chapter Eleven

Jesus started His Last Week with a triumphant entry into Jerusalem, a quick visit to the temple, returning to Bethany with the twelve (1-11). The next day returning to Jerusalem He cursed a barren fig tree (12-14), drove moneychangers from the temple, again leaving Jerusalem at evening (15-19). The third day the disciples observed the withered fig tree, and Jesus taught them the power of faith and importance of forgiving others in prayer (20-26). In the temple at Jerusalem, the chief priests, scribes, and elders challenged His authority. Jesus refused to say by what authority He did things when they refused to acknowledge the authority of John's baptism (27-33).

Points To Ponder

- The significance of the triumphal entry, cursing the fig tree, cleansing the temple
- Jesus' teachings regarding faith & forgiveness in prayer, and sources of authority

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The triumphal entry – **Mk 11:1-11**
 - Jesus curses the fig tree – **Mk 11:12-14**
 - Jesus cleanses the temple – **Mk 11:15-19**
 - Jesus teaches on faith and forgiveness in prayer – **Mk 11:20-26**
 - Jesus' authority questioned – **Mk 11:27-33**
- 2) What did the people say when Jesus arrived in Jerusalem riding a colt? (9-10)**
 - "Hosanna! Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord!"
 - "Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that comes in the name of the Lord!"
 - "Hosanna in the highest!" ("Hosanna" meant "Save!", but came to mean "Praise God!")
- 3) What might the cursing of the barren fig tree signify? (12-14,20)**
 - The Lord's displeasure upon Israel's leaders and their coming judgment
- 4) Why was Jesus angry at the merchandising going on in the temple? (17)**
 - God's house of prayer had been turned into a den of thieves
- 5) Why did the religious leaders seek to destroy Jesus? (18)**
 - They feared Him because all the people were astonished at His teaching
- 6) What two lessons on prayer did Jesus teach in this chapter? (22-26)**
 - Pray with faith in God, and with forgiveness toward others
- 7) Where does authority in religion come from? (29)**
 - Either from heaven (i.e., the Word of God) or from men (i.e., the teachings of men)

The Gospel Of Mark

Chapter Twelve

After being challenged by religious leaders in the temple, Jesus told a parable of the wicked vinedressers (1-12). Pharisees and Herodians tried to trap Jesus in words with a question about paying taxes (13-17). Sadducees presented an argument against the resurrection of the dead (18-27). A scribe asked what was the first commandment of the Law (28-34). Having easily answered their questions, Jesus then asked a question regarding the Christ as David's son, much to the delight of the common people. He followed with a warning about the practices of the scribes (35-40). Observing a poor widow giving two mites to the temple treasury, Jesus explained to His disciples how she in her poverty had given more than all others who had given to the treasury (41-44).

Points To Ponder

- The meaning of the parable of the wicked vinedressers
- Paying taxes, the resurrection, and the greatest commandment
- How Christ is both David's son and David's Lord
- How the poor can actually give more than the rich

Review Questions

- 1) **What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The parable of the wicked vinedressers - **Mk 12:1-12**
 - Jesus questioned by Pharisees, Herodians, Sadducees, and a Scribe - **Mk 12:13-34**
 - Jesus: How can Christ be both David's son and David's Lord? - **Mk 12:35-37**
 - Beware of the scribes - **Mk 12:38-40**
 - The widow's two mites - **Mk 12:41-44**
- 2) **What is depicted in the parable of the wicked vinedressers? (1-12)**
 - How the religious leaders rejected the prophets, would kill God's son, lose the kingdom
- 3) **What did Jesus say that prompted Pharisees and Herodians to marvel? (17)**
 - "Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's."
- 4) **What answers did Jesus give the Sadducees regarding the resurrection? (24-27)**
 - Marital relations don't exist after death; **Exo 3:6** proves the dead still exist
- 5) **What were the first and second commandments of the Law? (29-31)**
 - Love God with all your heart, soul, mind; love your neighbor as yourself
- 6) **How can Christ be both David's son and David's Lord? (37)**
 - His son by virtue of physical ancestry, his Lord by virtue of His deity
- 7) **Against whom did Jesus warn? Who did Jesus commend? (38-40,41-44)**
 - The hypocritical scribes; a poor widow who gave two mites into the treasury

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Chapter Thirteen

This chapter records the Olivet discourse, prompted by questions following Jesus' prediction of the destruction of the temple (1-2). It involves the destruction of Jerusalem which occurred in 70 A.D., though many also see intertwining references to the Second Coming of Christ (3-37).

Points To Ponder

- The fulfillment of events foretold by Jesus in this chapter
- The importance of being watchful and prayerful

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The destruction of the temple foretold - **Mk 13:1-2**
 - The sign when things would soon occur - **Mk 13:3-23**
 - Events after the tribulation in those days - **Mk 13:24-27**
 - The need to be prepared and productive - **Mk 13:28-37**
- 2) What questions were prompted by Jesus' prediction? (3-4)**
 - "When will these things be? What will be the sign...?"
- 3) What did Jesus say would not be the sign? (5-13)**
 - False christs, wars, famines, pestilences, earthquakes, persecution, lawlessness
- 4) What would happen before the "end" would come? (10)**
 - The gospel preached in all the world (cf. **Mk 16:15; Ro 10:16-18; Co 1:23**)
- 5) What would be the sign for those in Judea to flee? (14-15; cf. Lk 21:20-21)**
 - The abomination of desolation (Jerusalem surrounded by armies)
- 6) What would happen after the tribulation of those days? (24-27)**
 - Cataclysmic events involving celestial bodies (sun, moon, stars)
 - The Son of Man, coming on clouds of heaven, gathering the elect
- 7) Where else is such language used to describe judgment upon a nation?**
 - Against Babylon, Egypt, Edom, Assyria - cf. **Isa 13:6-13; 19:1-2; 34:4-6; Nah 1:1-5**
- 8) What would not pass away before these things would be fulfilled? (30)**
 - The generation of people when Jesus lived on the earth
- 9) Why did Jesus stress the importance of watching and praying? (32-37)**
 - No one knows the day or hour
 - The Son of Man will come unexpectedly

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Chapter Fourteen

This lengthy chapter describes the flurry of events leading to Jesus' arrest and trial, with the plot to kill Jesus (**1-2,10-11**), Jesus' anointment by Mary (**3-9**), the last Passover supper and institution of the Lord's Supper (**12-31**), Jesus' prayers in the garden (**32-42**), the betrayal by Judas and accompanying arrest (**43-52**), the appearance before the high priest and the council (**53-65**), and Peter's denial as foretold by Jesus (**66-72**).

Points To Ponder

- The events leading to the arrest of Jesus
- The institution of the Lord's Supper
- Judas' betrayal, the council's abuse, and Peter's denial

Review Questions

- 1) What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The plot to kill Jesus - **Mk 14:1-2,10-11**
 - Jesus anointed at Bethany - **Mk 14:3-9**
 - The last supper - **Mk 14:12-31**
 - Prayers in the garden - **Mk 14:32-42**
 - Betrayal and arrest - **Mk 14:43-52**
 - Before the high priest - **Mk 14:53-65**
 - Peter denies Jesus - **Mk 14:66-72**
- 2) Who plotted to take Jesus by trickery and kill Him? (1-2)**
 - The chief priests and scribes
- 3) What did Jesus say would be done for Mary (cf. Jn 12:3) who anointed Him? (9)**
 - What she did would be proclaimed throughout the world as a memorial to her
- 4) Who went to the chief priests to betray Jesus to them? (10)**
 - Judas Iscariot, one of the twelve apostles
- 5) What did Jesus institute while eating the Passover? (22-25; cf. 1Co 11:17-34)**
 - The Lord's Supper
- 6) What did Jesus predict would happen that night? (27-31)**
 - All His disciples would stumble, even Peter would deny Him three times
- 7) What did Jesus pray for in the garden of Gethsemane (36,39)**
 - "Take this cup away from Me, nevertheless not as I will, but as You will"
- 8) What claim was Jesus willing to accept at His trial? (61-62)**
 - That He was the Christ, the Son of the Blessed (God)
- 9) After Peter denied knowing Jesus three times, what did he do? (72)**
 - He went out and wept

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Chapter Fifteen

Prevented by law from carrying out execution the religious leaders delivered Jesus to Pilate, who after letting Barnabas go free, scourged Jesus and delivered Him to be crucified (**1-15**). The Roman soldiers, after mocking Jesus and further striking Him, led Him out to be crucified, compelling Simon a Cyrenian to bear His cross along the way (**16-21**). At a place called Golgotha, Jesus is crucified with two thieves, blasphemed by passersby, mocked by the chief priests, and expires after six hours (**22-41**), witnessed by a group of women disciples. At the request of Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, Jesus is buried in a tomb observed by Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus (**42-47**).

Points To Ponder

- The events leading to the crucifixion
- The abuse Jesus suffered prior to His actual death
- The mention of women who were witnesses of His death and burial

Review Questions

1) What are the main points of this chapter?

- Jesus before Pilate and the release of Barnabas - **Mk 15:1-15**
- Jesus mocked by soldiers and Simon compelled to carry His cross - **Mk 15:16-21**
- Jesus' crucifixion and death - **Mk 15:22-41**
- Jesus buried in Joseph of Arimathea's tomb - **Mk 15:42-47**

2) What did Jesus confess to Pilate? (2)

- He was the King of the Jews

3) Who was released instead of Jesus? (6-15)

- Barabbas, a notorious prisoner

4) What abuse did Pilate and the Roman soldiers inflict on Jesus? (15-20)

- Scourged, crowned with thorns, struck with a reed, spat on, mocked

5) Who helped bear Jesus' cross? Where was Jesus crucified? (21-22)

- Simon of Cyrene; Golgotha (Place of a Skull)

6) Who blasphemed, mocked, and reviled Jesus as He hung on the cross? (29-32)

- Passersby, the chief priests, elders, scribes, and the two thieves crucified with Him

7) What did the centurion confess following Jesus' death? (39)

- "Truly this Man was the Son of God!"

8) Where was Jesus buried? Who saw where He was buried? (42-47)

- In Joseph of Arimathea's tomb; Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus

The Gospel Of Mark

Chapter Sixteen

On the first day of the week following His crucifixion, Mary Magdalene, Mary of James, and Salome arrive at the tomb to anoint Jesus, uncertain how the stone will be rolled away. But the large stone had been removed, and a young man in a long white robe declares Jesus risen and gives them instructions to tell the disciples to meet Jesus in Galilee (1-8).

When Jesus rose from the dead, He first appeared to Mary Magdalene but no one believed her (9-11). He later appeared to two disciples, but they were not believed either (12-13). When Jesus appeared to the eleven apostles, He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, but then gave them the Great Commission to preach the gospel with the promise that signs would follow them (14-18). When Jesus ascended to heaven, He sat down at the right hand of God, and worked with His apostles through the accompanying signs (19-20).

Points To Ponder

- The circumstances of Jesus' resurrection, and the reticence of some to believe
- The details of the Great Commission and the gospel to be preached
- The purpose of miracles that accompanied the apostles

Review Questions

- 1) **What are the main points of this chapter?**
 - The resurrection of Jesus - **Mk:1-8**
 - The unbelief and hardness of heart of some to believe at first - **Mk 16:9-14**
 - The Great Commission and the Lord working with the apostles - **Mk 16:15-20**
- 2) **Who came to the tomb early in the morning on the first day of the week? (1-2)**
 - Mary Magdalene, Mary of James, and Salome
- 3) **What did they find when they got there? (3-5)**
 - The stone rolled away from the door, a young man clothed in a long white robe
- 4) **What were the women told by the young man? And their initial reaction? (6-7)**
 - Jesus of Nazareth, He is risen! Tell Jesus' disciples to meet Him in Galilee.
 - To flee, for they trembled and were amazed, and said nothing out of fear
- 5) **What was the initial reaction of those who were first told? Why? (9-14)**
 - They did not believe the eyewitnesses. Because of their hardness of hearts.
- 6) **How were people to respond to the preaching of the gospel? (15-16)**
 - To believe and be baptized in order to be saved (cf. **Ac 2:38; 22:16**)
- 7) **What was the purpose of miracles that accompanied the apostles? (17-20)**
 - To confirm the word being preached by those who heard Jesus (cf. **He 2:3-4**)