

Mark Jesus is an Obedient Servant - Follow Him



Mark

1. Mark is also known as John or John Mark (Acts 12:12,25; 13:5,13).
2. He lived in Jerusalem and was a cousin of Barnabas (Col. 4:10).
3. Mark seems to have been close to Peter (Acts 12:12; 1 Pet. 5:13) and likely got eyewitness accounts of Jesus' life from him. Peter plays a prominent role in the book (cf. esp. 8:27-29).
4. Mark was on Paul's first missionary journey but left early, causing a split between Barnabas and Paul. Mark later ministered with Barnabas on Cyprus (Acts 13:37-41).
5. He worked with Paul later in life (Col. 4:10, Phm 24; 2 Tim 4:11).
6. Mark may be the man in the linen cloth at Jesus' arrest (14:51,52). The story is found only in Mark.

Keys to Mark's Gospel

1. Mark is the shortest gospel. He uses the word "immediately" to keep the pace of his gospel moving fast—toward Jerusalem.
2. He focuses on the activity of Jesus more than His teaching.
3. Mark frequently (14 times) uses the term "Son of Man" which comes from Dan 7:13 and clearly identifies Jesus as the Messiah.
4. The Disciples, like us, struggle to fully understand who Jesus is and how to follow him, as illustrated in the Blind Man Stories.
5. The ending (16:8) is a cliff-hanger: How will you respond to the calling and example of the resurrected Messiah?

Who is this Messiah?

Introduction to Jesus Christ, "The Son of God"

Title: The Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God 1:1
 Jesus' Forerunner: John the Baptist announcing the Messiah 1:2-8
 Jesus' Baptism: Heaven announcing the Son of God 1:9-11
 Jesus' Temptation: Satan cannot defeat the Son of God 1:12-13

1:1
 In the Desert

The Public Ministry of Jesus, "The Son of Man"

Calling Disciples & Conflict with Religious Leaders 1:14-3:12
 Calling the First Disciples 1:14-20 • Authority over demons and disease 1:21-45
 Rejection by Jewish Leaders 2:1-3:12

Mysteries of the Kingdom & Miracles of Power 3:13-6:6

Appointment of the Twelve Disciples 3:13-19 • Conflict, Parables & More Miracles 3:20-5:43
 Rejection in Nazareth 6:1-6

Sending Disciples & Misunderstandings about Jesus 6:7-8:26

Sending Out the Twelve Disciples 6:7-13 • John the Baptist Executed 6:14-29
 Self-disclosure to the Twelve through Word & Deed 6:30-8:13
 Warning about the Pharisees & Herod 8:14-21

BLIND MAN STORY #1 - Progressive Vision 8:22-26

Peter's Confession: "You are the Christ." 8:27-30

The Private Teaching of Jesus to His Followers

Jesus' Prediction of His own Death 8:31-9:1
 The Transfiguration Reveals Jesus' Glory 9:2-13
 Jesus' Teaching on Discipleship & the Disciples' Struggle 9:14-10:45

BLIND MAN STORY #2 - Immediate Vision 10:46-52

The Redemptive Ministry of Jesus in Jerusalem

Conflict in Jerusalem & Prediction of Judgment 11:1-13:37

The Triumphal Entry 11:1-11
 Prophetic Signs of God's Judgment of Israel 11:12-26
 Conflict with Jewish Leaders in the Temple Courts 11:27-12:44
 The Olivet Discourse: Signs of the End of the Age 13:1-37

Jesus Suffering & Death in Jerusalem 14:1-15:47

Anointed in Bethany 14:1-11 • The Last Supper 14:12-26
 Peter's Denial Predicted 14:27-31 • The Garden of Gethsemane 14:32-42
 The Arrest and Trial before the Sanhedrin 14:43-65
 Peter's Denial 14:66-72 • Trial before Pilate 15:1-20
 The Crucifixion of Jesus 15:21-32 • The Death of Jesus 15:33-41
 The Burial of Jesus 15:42-47

11:1

In Jerusalem

The Resurrection of Jesus

The Women's Arrival at the Tomb 16:1-5
 The Announcement of the Angel at the Tomb 16:6-7
 The Response to the Empty Tomb 16:8

16:1

16:8

Mark, in rapid succession, set forth a record of the life of Christ in close connection to His disciples, highlighting their struggle to understand who He was and the nature of His Messianic ministry, climaxing with the death, burial and resurrection of Christ in order to confirm the reader's faith and show the demands of following a Him as a Servant Leader.