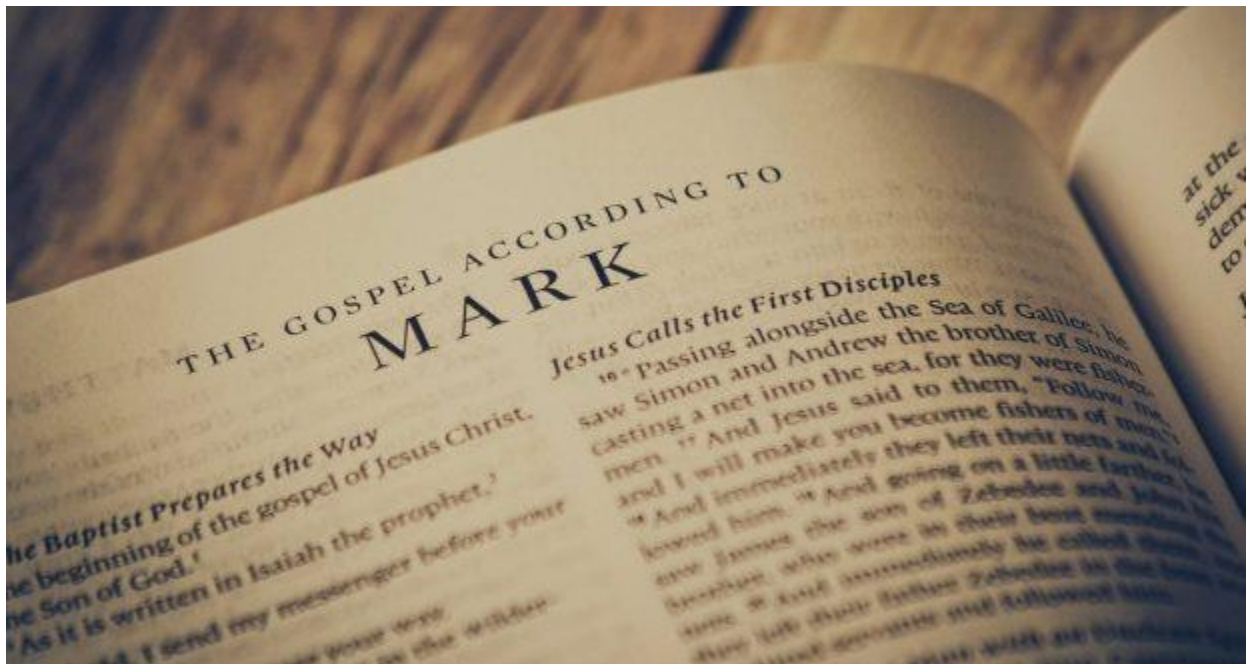


A Study of Mark's Gospel

God's Master Plan – Explained for Roman People
The Messiah is Servant (Mark 10:45)



Calvary Lutheran Church
Spring Sunday Morning Bible Class 2024

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Proposed Outline for Bible Class – Spring 2024

<u>Date</u>	<u>Lesson Number</u>	<u>Lessons</u>
1/28	#1	Introduction to Mark's Gospel
2/4	#2	Mark 1:1-13 & Mark 1:14-28
2/11	Council Updates (No MARK class)	
2/18	#3	Mark 1:29-2:12 & Mark 2:13-3:6
2/25	#4	Mark 3:7-35 & Mark 4:1-20
3/3	#5	Mark 4:21-41 & Mark 5
3/10	#6	Mark 6:1-29 & Mark 6:30-56
3/17	#7	Mark 7:1-23 & Mark 7:24-37
3/24	#8	Mark 8:1-30 & Mark 8:31-9:13
3/31	Easter Sunday Hymn Sing (No MARK class)	
4/7	#9	Mark 9:14-32 & Mark 9:33-50
4/14	#10	Mark 10:1-31 & Mark 10:32-52
4/21	Confirmation Sunday (No MARK class)	
4/28	#11	Mark 11:1-19 & Mark 11:20-33
5/5	#12	Mark 12:1-27 & Mark 12:28-44
5/12	#13	Mark 13:1-13 & Mark 13:14-37
5/19	#14	Mark 14:1-26 & Mark 14:27-72
5/26	#15	Mark 15:1-32 & Mark 15:22-47
6/2	#16	Mark 16 & Wrap-up

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Lesson 1 – Introduction to the Gospels in General and Mark's Gospel in specific

Introductory Activity

Authors Kate Hankey (verses) and William G. Fischer (refrain) together penned the hymn we know as “I Love to Tell the Story...” (CW 746). Discuss in your group:

Why do we love to tell the story?

What is so important about the life and ministry of Jesus?

Part One – The Gospels that tell the story!

The Four Gospels: _____, _____, _____, and _____.

Question 1: Why four Gospels?

The Synoptic Gospels: _____, _____, and _____.

Question 2: Where does John fit in with the other Gospels?

A few interesting facts about the Gospels:

- The percentage of content in each Gospel that is contained in the other Gospels...

_____ % of Mark's Gospel is contained in the other three.

_____ % of Matthew's Gospel is contained in the other three.

_____ % of Luke's Gospel is contained in the other three.

_____ % of John's Gospel is contained in the other three.

- From the birth of Jesus through Maundy Thursday evening, only TWO incidents in the life of Jesus are reported by all four Gospels:

#1: _____

#2: _____

- The “Synoptic Problem”: _____

The Theme and Audience of each Gospel:

Matthew

The Master Plan Interpreted for the _____

The Messiah is _____

Mark

The Master Plan Explained for _____

The Messiah is _____

Luke

The Master Plan Confirmed for _____ (_____)

The Messiah is _____

John

The Master Plan Reaffirmed for the _____ in _____

The Messiah is _____

Activity 1: Traditionally the Four Gospels have been “matched” with one of the four living creatures of Revelation 4:6–8 – a lion, an ox, a man, and an eagle (also seen in different order in Ezekiel’s visions). Can you match the symbol with the correct Gospel... and give the reason(s) why?



Part Two – An introduction to Mark’s Gospel

Who is this Mark (also known as John or John Mark), the “supposed” author?

- He was NOT _____
- Nor was he _____
- He WAS a friend of _____ (Acts 12:12; 1 Peter 5:13)
- He WAS also a friend of _____ (Acts 13:4; Philemon 24), though they had a brief falling out! (Acts 13:13; Acts 15:36-41)
- Mark is _____ as the author, but early church father’s identified Mark as the author. Based on 1 Peter 5:13 and the testimony of the church fathers, _____ is likely a primary source for Mark’s material.

Question 1: What comfort do you find in both Mark’s “ordinariness” and his well-known weaknesses, and yet God choose him as an author for one of the Gospel’s?

From a reading of Mark’s text, what appears to be his purpose in writing his Gospel?

- To provide _____ Christians in _____ with a written record of the public ministry of Jesus.
- To present the Gospel in a format and style suited to _____ readers.
- To fortify the faith of Christians _____ in Rome.

Question 2: Why is it important to grasp the purpose of an author before or while reading their work?

How is Mark’s Gospel organized?

There are likely as many suggestions for an outline to Mark’s Gospel as there are commentaries. For our study, I suggest one of the simpler outlines, based on the theme verse (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”**

1. He came to _____:
chapters 1-10 present the story of Jesus’ teaching and healing ministry

2. He came to _____:
chapters 11-16 relate the events of Jesus’ suffering, death, and resurrection

Activity 1: Look up at least ONE of the following websites and analyze the given outline for Mark’s Gospel. Explain what you like about it and/or tell what you would improve about it:

<https://preachingsource.com/journal/a-teaching-outline-of-the-gospel-of-mark/>

https://www.blueletterbible.org/Comm/mcgee_j_vernon/notes-outlines/mark/mark-outline.cfm

https://bible.org/seriespage/mark-introduction-argument-and-outline#_ftn46

<https://www.esv.org/resources/esv-global-study-bible/introduction-to-mark/>

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/intro/?search=Mark&version=NABRE>

https://www.preceptaustin.org/sites/default/files/images/mark_overview.png

https://www.preceptaustin.org/mark_commentaries

A summary of Jesus’ life as laid out in Mark’s Gospel looks like this:

1. The beginning of Jesus’ _____ (including John’s preparatory work)
2. Jesus’ early and late _____ ministry
3. Jesus’ excursions into neighboring places: Phoenicia, Decapolis, and Caesarea Philippi
4. Jesus’ last days in _____
5. Jesus’ _____ ministry
6. Jesus’ _____ and _____

Features to look for in Mark's Gospel:

- a) Evidence that Mark wrote for a Gentile (Roman) audience:
- a. _____ (7:2-4; 15:42)
 - b. _____

(3:17; 5:41; 7:11,34; 14:36; 15:22)
 - c. _____

(4:21; 12:14)
- b) Evidence that Mark intends on preparing his readers for _____
and _____ (3:22,30; 8:34-38; 10:30-34; 13:8-13)
- c) Mark's style is _____, _____, _____
- a. This is suited for the more practical bent of mind of the _____.
 - b. Mark omits references to Jesus' _____ and move quickly to the _____ of Jesus, the Christ.
 - c. Mark stresses Jesus as the Son of GOD by emphasizing what Jesus _____
(_____) than on what Jesus _____ (_____)
- d) Mark uses an adverb _____ 42 times.
- a. It is a word that suggests _____.
 - b. It intends to communicate to Roman readers that Jesus _____.
- e) Mark also shows a preference for the word _____.
- a. Clearly, that means as a second-hand witness, Mark _____.
 - b. Mark is also encouraging his readers to _____.
- f) There are only _____ accounts that are exclusive to Mark:
- a. Mark 4:26-29: _____
 - b. Mark 8:22-26: _____
 - c. Mark 14:51,52 _____
- g) The ending of Mark's Gospel has been cause for much discussion
- a. An _____ ending without Mark 16:9-20
 - b. Evidence for the inclusion of Mark 16:9-20 _____.

Question 3: One of Mark's purposes is to fortify Christians facing persecution in Rome. If God is loving and all-powerful, why does he allow suffering and persecution in the lives of his people?