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THE BOOK OF

MARK

A study guide and daily reading plan

What's <u>Mark</u> All About?

THEME

The ultimate purpose and theme of Mark is to present and defend Jesus' universal call to discipleship. Mark returns often to this theme, and as the narrative unfolds he categorizes his main audience as either followers or opponents of Jesus.

AUTHOR & DATE

Widespread evidence from the early church fathers affirms that Peter passed on reports of the words and deeds of Jesus to his attendant and writer, John Mark. The external and internal data most convincingly point to Rome as the place of composition and a date for Mark in the mid- to late-50s A.D. (but some scholars date it in the mid- or late-60s).

PURPOSE

Though Mark wrote from Rome, the Gospel of Mark was composed for the wider church as the record of the apostolic testimony of Peter. Even during the early Patristic period, Gentile Christians were frequently mentioned as the recipients of this Gospel. Mark addresses an audience that is largely unfamiliar with Jewish customs. He intends to familiarize them with those customs, because only then will they understand the coming of Jesus as the culmination of God's work with Israel and the entire world.

Read Through Mark

As we go on the journey through the book of Mark, we have provided a daily reading plan. If you want to grow in your faith, reading God's Word every day is essential. Consider it your daily bread! We recommend the SOAP method.



SCRIPTURE

Open your Bible to your reading for the day. Take time reading and allow God to speak to you. When you are done, look for a verse that particularly spoke to you that day, and write it in your journal.



OBSERVATION

What do you feel God is saying to you in this scripture? Ask the Holy Spirit to teach you and reveal Jesus to you.



APPLICATION

Personalize what you have read, by asking yourself how it applies to your life right now. Perhaps it is instruction, encouragement, a new promise, or corrections for a particular area of your life. Write how this scripture can apply to you today.



PRAYER

This can be as simple as asking God to help you use this scripture, or even a prayer for a greater insight on what He may be revealing to you. Remember, prayer is a two-way conversation, so be sure to listen to what God has to say. Now, write it out!

Reading Plan: Month One

READING TIPS...

your understanding of spiritual belonging?

- If you miss a day, that's okay! Don't miss two.
- Remember to use the **SOAP** method each day.
- Ask the Holy Spirit be your guide as you read. He will speak to you!

Week 1 Week 2 Monday Monday Mark 1:1-8 Mark 2:1-8 Tuesday Tuesday Mark 1:9-15 Mark 2:9-15 Wednesday Wednesday Mark 1:16-23 Mark 2:16-23 Thursday Thursday Mark 1:24-30 Mark 2:24-30 **Friday** Mark 1:31-45 **Friday** Mark 2:31-28 Reflection: How does Jesus' call to the **Reflection:** What does the healing of the first disciples in Mark 1 challenge your paralytic in Mark 2 teach you about Jesus' response to His invitation? authority to forgive sins? Week 3 Week 4 Monday Monday Mark 3:1-8 Mark 4:1-8 Mark 3:9-15 Tuesday Tuesday Mark 4:9-15 Wednesday Mark 3:16-23 Wednesday Mark 4:16-23 Thursday **Thursday** Mark 3:24-30 Mark 4:24-30 **Friday Friday** Mark 3:31-35 Mark 4:31-41 Reflection: What does Jesus calming the Reflection: How does Jesus redefine family in Mark 3, and how does this shape storm in Mark 4 reveal about trusting Him

in the midst of life's challenges?

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Reading Plan: Month Two

and Jesus' teaching on discipleship in

Mark 8 mean for your daily life?

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READINC TIPS...

you to focus on internal purity rather than

external appearances?

- If you miss a day, that's okay! Don't miss two.
- Remember to use the SOAP method each day.
- Ask the Holy Spirit be your guide as you read. He will speak to you!

Week 5 Week 6 Monday Monday Mark 5:1-8 Mark 6:1-8 Tuesday Mark 5:9-15 Tuesday Mark 6:9-15 Wednesday Wednesday Mark 5:16-23 Mark 6:16-23 **Thursday Thursday** Mark 5:24-30 Mark 6:24-30 Friday Mark 5:31-43 **Friday** Mark 6:31-56 Reflection: How do the stories in Mark 5 **Reflection:** What does Jesus feeding the demonstrate Jesus' compassion and 5,000 in Mark 6 teach you about God's power to restore what is broken? provision and abundance? Week 7 Week 8 Monday Mark 7:1-8 Monday Mark 8:1-8 Mark 7:9-15 Tuesday Mark 8:9-15 Tuesday Wednesday Wednesday Mark 7:16-23 Mark 8:16-23 **Thursday Thursday** Mark 7:24-30 Mark 8:24-30 **Friday** Mark 7:31-37 **Friday** Mark 8:31-38 **Reflection:** How does Mark 7 challenge Reflection: What does Peter's confession

Reading Plan: Month Three

READING TIPS...

and devotion in your life?

- If you miss a day, that's okay! Don't miss two.
- Remember to use the SOAP method each day.
- Ask the Holy Spirit be your guide as you read. He will speak to you!

Week 9 Week 10 Monday Monday Mark 9:1-8 Mark 10:1-8 Tuesday Mark 9:9-15 Tuesday Mark 10:9-15 Wednesday Wednesday Mark 9:16-23 Mark 10:16-23 **Thursday Thursday** Mark 9:24-30 Mark 10:24-30 **Friday Friday** Mark 9:31-50 Mark 10:31-52 Reflection: How does the Transfiguration **Reflection:** What does Jesus' interaction in Mark 9 help you see Jesus for who He with the rich young ruler in Mark 10 teach about the priorities of God's kingdom? truly is? Week 11 Week 12 Monday Monday Mark 11:1-8 Mark 12:1-8 Tuesday Mark 11:9-15 Tuesday Mark 12:9-15 Wednesday Wednesday Mark 11:16-23 Mark 12:16-23 **Thursday Thursday** Mark 11:24-30 Mark 12:24-30 Friday Mark 11:31-33 Friday Mark 12:31-44 Reflection: How does Jesus cleansing the Reflection: What do Jesus' words about the greatest commandment in Mark 12 temple in Mark 11 inspire true worship

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teach you about love and obedience?

Reading Plan: Month Four

READING TIPS...

Reflection: How does Jesus' sacrifice in

Mark 15 shape your understanding of His

love and redemption?

- If you miss a day, that's okay! Don't miss two.
- Remember to use the SOAP method each day.
- Ask the Holy Spirit be your guide as you read. He will speak to you!

Week 13 Week 14 Monday Mark 13:1-8 Monday Mark 14:1-8 Tuesday Tuesday Mark 13:9-15 Mark 14:9-15 Wednesday Wednesday Mark 13:16-23 Mark 14:16-23 **Thursday Thursday** Mark 13:24-30 Mark 14:24-30 **Friday** Mark 13:31-37 **Friday** Mark 14:31-72 Reflection: How does Jesus' call to be Reflection: What does Jesus' prayer in watchful in Mark 13 encourage you to live Gethsemane in Mark 14 reveal about surrendering to God during trials? with expectancy and urgency? Week 16 Week 15 Monday Mark 15:1-8 Monday Mark 16:1-8 Tuesday Tuesday Mark 15:9-15 Mark 16:9-15 Wednesday Mark 15:16-23 Wednesday Mark 16:16-23 **Thursday Thursday** Mark 15:24-30 Mark 16:24-30 Friday Mark 15:31-47 **Friday** Mark 16:31-20

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Reflection: How does the empty tomb in Mark 16 fill you with hope and a sense of

mission for the resurrection life?