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## Study Outline

### *Background: Historical & Authorship*

Mark (*John Mark*) grew up as a follower of Jesus. His mother Mary was an early disciple of Christ and a pillar of the early church. His uncle was Barnabas (*Acts 4:36*) and Mark was included in the first of Paul's missionary journeys (*Acts 12:25*). Though he fell out of favor with Paul, later in life he became a trusted friend of the Apostle (*1 Timothy 4:11*). He's also referred to as the "spiritual son" of Peter (*Colossians 4:10, 1 Peter 5:13*). And many believe his Gospel to be Peter's record of Jesus' life.

**Main Point:** As the shortest Gospel, Mark wrote with a rapid, energetic style unlike his contemporaries (the connective word "and" is used 1331 times). Focusing more on Jesus' deeds than words, as predicted in Isaiah 42, Mark presents Jesus to a predominately Roman culture in servitude as God's ultimate servant. (25% of the Roman Empire was comprised of slaves.) As one commentator stated concerning Mark's account, "Jesus lays aside the regal robes of kingship and girds Himself with the towel of servitude. Jesus is not adorned with words and narrative, but He is stripped and girded for action." Mark presents Jesus as the model of our service.

**Key Verse:** Mark 10:45, "For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give His life a ransom for many."

## OUTLINE: GOSPEL OF MARK

### THE SERVANT'S PREPARATION

CH 1:1-8 INTRODUCTION: JOHN PREPARES THE WAY  
CH 1:9-11 IDENTIFICATION: FATHER CONFIRMS THE SON  
CH 1:12-13 INITIATION: JESUS PREPARED FOR MINISTRY

### THE SERVANT'S GALILEAN MINISTRY

CH 1:14-5:43 PERIOD OF POPULARITY: ZENITH OF MINISTRY  
CH 6:1-9:32 PERIOD OF OPPOSITION & WITHDRAWAL  
CH 9:33-50 PERIOD OF COMPLETION: FINISHING HIS WORK

### THE SERVANT'S JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM

CH 10 EVENTS ON THE JOURNEY

### THE SERVANT'S MINISTRY IN JERUSALEM

CH 11-12 JESUS' PUBLIC TEACHING MINISTRY IN JERUSALEM  
CH 13:1-14:42 JESUS' PRIVATE TEACHING MINISTRY WITH THE DISCIPLES

### THE SERVANT'S ULTIMATE SACRIFICE

CH 14:43-15:47 JESUS' ARREST, TRIAL, SUFFERING, AND CRUCIFIXION

### THE SERVANT'S LASTING VICTORY

CH 16 JESUS' RESURRECTION, MINISTRY, COMMISSION, AND ASCENSION



### *Day 1: Agent of Change.....*

**Mark 1:1-8 // THINKING POINTS:** (1). According to this passage what message did John the Baptist preach that prepared the way for Jesus? (2). Why is repentance the crucial first step in coming to Jesus? (3). Though repentance prepares the way for the saving work of Jesus, what is the agent of this change according to John?

### *Day 2: Untouchable.....*

**Mark 1:29-45 // THINKING POINTS:** (1). What was so incredible about Jesus reaching out and touching the leper? How was this miracle such an incredible event? (2). How does the disease of leprosy correlate to the lasting effects of sin? (3). Why would Jesus warn the leper not to tell anyone about this miracle?

### *Day 3: Power of the Word.....*

**Mark 2:1-12 // THINKING POINTS:** (1). Do you love your "lame friends" enough to do whatever it takes to bring them to Jesus? How are you showing it? (2). After forgiving the man of his sins, why did Jesus heal the man of his multiformity in response to the crowds reaction? (3). How do we unlock the healing power of Jesus in our own lives?

### *Day 4: Multi-Tasking.....*

**Mark 5:21-43 // THINKING POINTS:** (1). What is the basic difference between hanging around Jesus and reaching out to touch Him? (2). In what way should the healing of the women have provided this man encouragement? (3). What evidence was displayed of resurrection?

### *Day 5: Triumphal Entry.....*

**Mark 11:1-11 // THINKING POINTS:** (1). Why was this day so significant in light of Old Testament prophecy? (2). Why would the unknown owner of the donkey willingly allow Jesus to take his property? (3). The same group that hailed Jesus as King upon His arrival to Jerusalem would one week later cry out for His crucifixion. What lessons can be learned from the fickle nature of this mob?

### *Day 6: Back in the Garden.....*

**Mark 14:32-42 // THINKING POINT:** (1). What aspect of Christ's humanity is revealed when Jesus prays for the Father to remove the cup of suffering - if there be any other way? (2). Though Jesus felt the natural anticipation of the events He knew were on the coming horizon, what did He consistently keep in perspective? (3). How does your understanding of Christ suffering deepen with this event in mind?

**DEVOTIONS**

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