

The Gospel of Mark

Week 1: Who is Jesus?

1. *Who do you think Jesus is?*

2. Let's look to the God's Word, the Bible, to see what it says about Jesus:
 - **Mark 1:1** →

 - *What is YOUR response to the above statement?*

 - *How does the Gospel of Mark validate the 1:1 verse?*
(Record what the proceeding verses say)

 - Jesus' power & authority:
 - **Mark 1:21-22** →
 - **Mark 1:29-31** →
 - **Mark 4:35-41** →
 - **Mark 5:35-43** →
 - **Mark 2:1-12** →

 - *After looking at these passages, do changes need to be made to your answer to the first question?*

 - *What does a response to the true Jesus look like?*
 - Luke 5:1-8 →

“I am trying here to prevent anyone saying the really foolish thing that people often say about Him: I'm ready to accept Jesus as a great moral teacher, but I don't accept his claim to be God. That is the one thing we must not say. A man who was merely a man and said the sort of things Jesus said would not be a great moral teacher. He would either be a lunatic — on the level with the man who says he is a poached egg — or else he would be the Devil of Hell. You must make your choice. Either this man was, and is, the Son of God, or else a madman or something worse. You can shut him up for a fool, you can spit at him and kill him as a demon or you can fall at his feet and call him Lord and God, but let us not come with any patronizing nonsense about his being a great human teacher. He has not left that open to us...” — C.S. Lewis

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Week 2: Why did Jesus come?

- *Why do you think Jesus came? What are common answers?*

- Let's continue to look in the Gospel of Mark & see what Jesus says about why He came:
 - **Mark 2:17** →
 - Do you view yourself as sick? Can someone be sick & not know it?

- 1. Jesus' diagnosis/definition of our sickness:
 - **Matthew 5:48** →

- 1. Jesus' prescription for our sickness:
 - **Mark 9:43-48** →
 - Is this verse to be taken literally?

- 2. Jesus' identification of our sickness:
 - **Mark 7:20-23** →
 - What is the logical conclusion?

- 3. Patient's response:
 - **Mark 10: 26-27**

- 4. God's wise & merciful provision:
 - **Ezekiel 36:26-27**

- Self-Reflection: Do I see myself as sick? Do I want to be healed?
- **Revelations 3:20**

“All you need is need & most people don't have it” – Tim Keller

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Week 3: Why did Jesus have to die?

3. *What are some opinions you've heard about why Jesus died?*

4. Let's look to the God's Word, the Bible, to see what it says about why Jesus had to die:
 - Jesus knew He was coming to die:
 - **Mark 8:31-32** →
 - **Mark 10:45** →

 - Jesus' death was crucial:
 - **Galatians 4:4** →
 - **Romans 5:6** →

 - God the Father made it clear that it was His plan for His Son Jesus to die:
 - **Mark 14:35-38** →
 - **Isaiah 53:6-10** →
 - **Acts 2:23-24** →

- If sin is a crime & crimes deserve just penalties, what is the penalty for sin?
 - **Romans 6:23** →

- What was “the cup” that Jesus was referring to in Mark 14?
 - **Psalm 75:8** →

- What entailed the cup for Jesus?
 - **Mark 15:33-34** →

1. Somebody has to die for YOUR sin: **Hebrews 9:27**
2. God loves YOU: **1 John 4:10, John 3:16**
3. YOUR response: **Mark 1:15**

This is why his demand for repentance is part of his central message that the kingdom of God is at hand. “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel” (Mark 1:15). The gospel—the good news—is that the rule of God has arrived in Jesus to save sinners before it arrives at his second coming in judgment.

So the demand to repent is based on the gracious *offer* that is present to forgive, and on the gracious *warning* that someday those who refuse the offer will perish in God's judgment. – John Piper

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Week 4: What should be our response?

1. *If we what we know about the past three studies is true, what should be our response?*

2. Let's look to God's Word, the Bible, to see what it says about how we ought to respond:
 1. Pontius Pilate:
 - **Mark 15:12-15 →**
 2. Soldiers:
 - **Mark 15:23-24 →**
 3. The "Religious..."
 - **Mark 15:31-32 →**
 4. The bystanders:
 - **Mark 15:35-36 →**
 5. Centurion:
 - **Mark 15:39 →**

- Salvation is apart us and what we do:
 - **Mark 10:17-25 →**

- God provides the way:
 - **Mark 10:26-27 →**

3. *Do you believe the things that we have examined in this study?*
 - Jesus is the Son of God, He points to our sinful heart and gives us His perfect heart, & He dies for the sins that we've committed?
 - If so, Mark 1:15!