MARK

Orientation

Where is Mark in the Bible? (source: Challies.com)

THE BOOKS OF THE BIBLE

What is a gospel?
Strong’s concordance: εὐαγγέλιον; euaggelion; 1. (properly) a good message 2. (specially) the good news of redemption through Jesus (i.e., the gospel of Jesus) 3. (also called) the good news

Merriam-Webster: one of the first four New Testament books telling of the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ

Who wrote the gospel of Mark?
We don’t know for sure (the text doesn’t say), but church tradition says John Mark, who traveled with Paul and was supposedly Peter’s translator.

When was Mark written?
Most scholars believe Mark was the first of the gospels written, likely in the early 50s, but we don’t know for 100% sure.
What is Mark about?

**Mark 1**
- John the Baptist Prepares the Way
- The Baptism of Jesus
- The Temptation of Jesus
- Jesus Begins His Ministry
- Jesus Calls the First Disciples
- Jesus Heals a Man with an Unclean Spirit
- Jesus Heals Many
- Jesus Preaches in Galilee
- Jesus Cleanses a Leper

**Mark 2**
- Jesus Heals a Paralytic
- Jesus Calls Levi
- A Question About Fasting
- Jesus Is Lord of the Sabbath

**Mark 3**
- A Man with a Withered Hand
- A Great Crowd Follows Jesus
- The Twelve Apostles
- Blasphemy Against the Holy Spirit
- Jesus' Mother and Brothers

**Mark 4**
- The Parable of the Sower
- The Purpose of the Parables
- A Lamp Under a Basket
- The Parable of the Seed Growing
- The Parable of the Mustard Seed
- Jesus Calms a Storm

**Mark 5**
- Jesus Heals a Man with a Demon
- Jesus Heals a Woman and Jairus's Daughter

**Mark 6**
- Jesus Rejected at Nazareth
- Jesus Sends Out the Twelve Apostles
- The Death of John the Baptist
- Jesus Feeds the Five Thousand
- Jesus Walks on the Water
- Jesus Heals the Sick in Gennesaret

**Mark 7**
- Traditions and Commandments
- What Defiles a Person
- The Syrophoenician Woman's Faith
- Jesus Heals a Deaf Man

**Mark 8**
- Jesus Feeds the Four Thousand
- The Pharisees Demand a Sign
- The Leaven of the Pharisees and Herod
- Jesus Heals a Blind Man at Bethsaida
- Peter Confesses Jesus as the Christ

**Mark 9**
- Jesus Foretells His Death and Resurrection
- The Transfiguration
- Jesus Heals a Boy with an Unclean Spirit
- Jesus Again Foretells Death, Resurrection
- Who Is the Greatest?
- Anyone Not Against Us Is for Us
- Temptations to Sin

**Mark 10**
- Teaching About Divorce
- Let the Children Come to Me
- The Rich Young Man
- Jesus Foretells His Death a Third Time
- The Request of James and John
- Jesus Heals Blind Bartimaeus

**Mark 11**
- The Triumphal Entry
- Jesus Curses the Fig Tree
- Jesus Cleanses the Temple
- The Lesson from the Withered Fig Tree
- The Authority of Jesus Challenged

**Mark 12**
- The Parable of the Tenants
- Paying Taxes to Caesar
- The Sadducees Ask About the Resurrection
- The Great Commandment
- Whose Son Is the Christ?
- Beware of the Scribes
- The Widow's Offering

**Mark 13**
- Jesus Foretells Destruction of the Temple
- Signs of the End of the Age
- The Abomination of Desolation
- The Coming of the Son of Man
- The Lesson of the Fig Tree
- No One Knows That Day or Hour

**Mark 14**
- The Plot to Kill Jesus
- Jesus Anointed at Bethany
- Judas to Betray Jesus
- The Passover with the Disciples
- Institution of the Lord's Supper
- Jesus Prays in Gethsemane
- Betrayal and Arrest of Jesus
- A Young Man Flees
- Jesus Before the Council
- Peter Denies Jesus

**Mark 15**
- Jesus Delivered to Pilate
- Pilate Delivers Jesus to Be Crucified
- Jesus Is Mocked
- The Crucifixion
- The Death of Jesus
- Jesus Is Buried

**Mark 16**
- The Resurrection
- Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene
- Jesus Appears to Two Disciples
- The Great Commission
What is Mark about?
What did you observe from reading Mark? Mark is about the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus.

What does Mark focus on?
Mark focuses on action more than words—so don’t miss Jesus’ words in the middle of all of the activity. Brian Smith puts it this way: Mark is big on energy and short on detail. Brian said he would tell Mark, have a cup of decaf and tell another story.

What is our schedule plan?
Today is an orientation, next week we’ll start with Mark 1:1, and we’ll go until we’re finished each week.

Resources
1. Holy Spirit
3. For members only: bit.ly/FlemingSS (prayer requests, family stuff, ad hoc needs)
4. For all: fb.com/OurSundaySchool (study dialogue/questions, inviting)
5. For all: OurSundaySchool.com (teacher notes, student handouts, PowerPoints, audio recordings, and option to subscribe to all resources) — these are evangelistic resources
6. For all: bit.ly/OSSYT (YouTube channel with video recordings of lessons)

Additional Resources

Homework
1. Pray for help in understanding Mark
2. Hear Mark multiple times
3. Think about Mark often (day and night)
4. Talk with someone (dead or alive) about Mark
5. Share your insights about Mark
6. Invite a member and a non-member

Suggestion: you’re going to be frustrated with this series if you don’t do the homework—I’m going to teach and expect that you do the homework. So, if you get frustrated, that’s on you.

Let’s move into our table prayer time.