

# MARK

## HOW TO STUDY THE GOSPEL OF MARK

The Bible provides an incredible depiction of Jesus through four unique Gospels. The Gospel of Mark emphasizes the need to follow Jesus immediately. In order to study this book, let's address the differences between the four Gospels and the unique nature of Mark's Gospel.

### WHY ARE THERE FOUR DIFFERENT GOSPELS?

1. The Gospels are \_\_\_\_\_ different perspectives focusing on \_\_\_\_\_ person – Jesus.
2. The Gospels are intended for 4 uniquely, targeted \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Each Gospel is a \_\_\_\_\_ portrayal of Jesus by itself but when \_\_\_\_\_ with the others, they provide a more thorough depiction of Jesus' message and ministry.

### WHAT MAKES EACH GOSPEL UNIQUE?

#### 1. Matthew

- Intention – Presents Jesus as Israel's \_\_\_\_\_
- Primary Audience – \_\_\_\_\_
- Author's Source – First-hand witness as one of the \_\_\_\_\_
- Occupation – \_\_\_\_\_
- Date – 50s-60s
- Author's Perspective – Matt. 9:9-13; 10:1-4

#### 2. Mark

- Intention – Emphasizes that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God
- Primary Audience – \_\_\_\_\_ Empire
- Author's Source – Disciple of Jesus (not one of the Twelve); got most of his information as a colleague of \_\_\_\_\_
- Occupation – ?
- Date – 50s-60s
- Author's Perspective – Mark 14:51-52; 66-72 (cf. John 18:15-18, 25-27)

#### 3. Luke

- Intention – Written to a \_\_\_\_\_ man named Theophilus as a presentation of a careful investigation of all the facts about Christ
- Primary Audience – \_\_\_\_\_
- Author's Source – Colleague of \_\_\_\_\_; interviewed many sources
- Occupation – \_\_\_\_\_
- Date – Early 60s
- Author's Perspective – Luke 1:1-4; 2:19

#### 4. John

- Intention – Attempts to persuade theologians for people to \_\_\_\_\_ in Jesus
- Primary Audience – \_\_\_\_\_ (John calls for a response)
- Author's Source – First-hand witness as one of the Twelve and inner \_\_\_\_\_
- Occupation – \_\_\_\_\_
- Date – Around A.D. 85
- Author's Perspective – John 14:23-25; 18:15-16; 19:26-27; 35; 20:2-9; 30-31; 21:20-25

## WHAT IS UNIQUE ABOUT MARK'S PERSPECTIVE?

### 1. Mark's Identity - Follower of Jesus

1. **Disciple of \_\_\_\_\_** - He wasn't included as one of the original twelve, but he is a part of the few hundred disciples at large (Mark 14:51-52).
2. **Scribe of \_\_\_\_\_** - Most of Mark's insider information on the life of Jesus is believed to have come from Peter.
3. **Cousin of \_\_\_\_\_** - Barnabas was an early church leader and missionary (Acts 4:36; Acts 14:14). Mark was his cousin and got to journey with him on many missionary trips (Col. 4:10; Acts 15:39).
4. **Companion of \_\_\_\_\_** - Even though Paul grew weary of Mark's wishy-washiness (Acts 15:38), he later was a comfort to him and a helpful resource in his ministry (2 Tim. 4:11).
5. **Picture of \_\_\_\_\_** - In Jesus' ministry, when the times got tough, Mark got going. In Paul's ministry, when the times got tough, Mark got going. Mark wasn't perfect. And so his perspective into the life of the only perfect person who sought out imperfect people is amazing to read.

### 2. Mark's Audience - Roman Empire

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ needed to understand that Jesus was the Son of God (Mark 1:1).
2. The \_\_\_\_\_ are confused regarding Jesus' identity (Mark 2:7).
3. The \_\_\_\_\_ are unsure regarding Jesus' identity (Mark 4:41).
4. The \_\_\_\_\_ were confident regarding Jesus' identity (Mark 1:24; Mark 1:34; Mark 5:7).
5. A \_\_\_\_\_ is the first person to realize that Jesus was the Son of God (Mark 15:39).

### 3. Mark's Focus - Major Themes

1. \_\_\_\_\_ - Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ - Jesus is worthy of following immediately.

### 4. Mark's Outline - Major Sections

1. Act 1 - **The Ministry in \_\_\_\_\_** (Mark 1:1-8:21)
2. Act 2 - **The Journey to \_\_\_\_\_** (Mark 8:22-10:52)
3. Act 3 - **The Passion in \_\_\_\_\_** (Mark 11:1-16:20)

## WHICH IS THE MOST-LIKELY GOSPEL?

Understanding that each Gospel author wrote to a specific audience mentioned above, look at the following statements and think of which Gospel it is most likely found.

1. Large number of healings
2. More parables on money
3. Less amount of teaching material
4. Prefers to say "Kingdom of Heaven" rather than "Kingdom of God"
5. Starts Jesus' family tree with Adam
6. Roughest on Peter's character
7. "I AM" statements
8. Starts Jesus' family tree with Abraham
9. Most descriptive of the virgin birth
10. Plenty of fishing stories
11. Most OT quotations
12. Very detailed in retelling facts
13. Uses the word "immediately" over 40 times
14. *"And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. For nothing will be impossible with God." And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.*
15. *So he gave them permission. And the unclean spirits came out and entered the pigs; and the herd, numbering about two thousand, rushed down the steep bank into the sea and drowned in the sea.*
16. *And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.*
17. *"Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them but to fulfill them."*