

Welcome to week two of Mark! Let's start with a Biblical fact. Mark is believed to be the oldest gospel, the first written. The reason is because 80 % of Mark is also in Matthew and Luke, and the other gospels are generally patterned after Mark. The early church thought Matthew was the oldest, and that is why it is printed first in your Bible.

Chapter 4 – Write a one-sentence summary of each parable.

Parable of the Sower –

A Lamp on a Stand –

Parable of the Growing Seed –

Parable of the Mustard Seed –

Why do you think Jesus taught using stories? (Notice Jesus' teaching style is described in Mark 4:34).

Chapter 5 – Miraculous Acts

Let's focus on Mark 5: 21-42. What do we know about the following characters?

Jairus –

Jairus' Daughter –

The woman who touches Jesus –

List ways in which Jairus and 'the woman' were opposites. (I can think of at least 3)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

If you had been one of the witnesses to these miracles, what do you believe that you would have learned from them?

Chapter 6 – Politics and Miracles

Two political events occur in this chapter – a poor reception in Jesus’ hometown and the beheading of John the Baptist.

How could these events have influenced Jesus’ instructions on sending out the disciples in Mark 6: 8-11?

Jesus’ miracles often indicate He had a status higher than any other of God’s messengers. Read Mark 6: 30-56, and then write down how these miracles, in a way, outdo other signs previous messengers of God had done.

- Read Exodus 16. How is Jesus greater than Moses?

- Read Exodus 14 How is Jesus greater than Moses again?

Chapter 7 – Clean and Unclean

Throughout the Old Testament, Israel had a deep suspicion of the foreigner and viewed anyone outside of Israel as ‘unclean.’ Certain foods, contact with blood, illness, and injuries could also render a person ‘unclean.’

In Mark 7 1-20 what does Jesus say about being clean?

What is the significance of the woman in Mark 7:24-30 being *Syro-phoenician*? (*you might want to Google this passage*).

Make a list of kinds of people who might be considered unclean. What do you see the church doing to reach these people with the presence of Jesus Christ?