

- I) **V14-15 INTRO: Now after John was put in prison, Jesus came to Galilee preaching the**
- II) **As we have seen, Mark's style is not as filled with details as you find in the other gospels**  
**His writing style is intended to condense various events into a few verses**
- III) **We saw this when he introduced John the Baptist and avoided details about his birth**
- IV) **Luke dedicated much of ch 1, and Matthew and John gave more information**  
**On the other hand, when Mark wrote of John it was brief**  
**He gave enough information to be acquainted with John, but not much detail**
- V) **He did the same thing when he introduced Jesus to his readers**  
**He wrote of Jesus' baptism, the Spirit's anointing, and in two verses His temptation**
- VI) **It would seem obvious that Mark intended to give brief snapshots to his readers**  
**This would fit in to his goal to present Jesus as being on the go, busy at all times**
- VII) **This is seen by his use of the word immediately, which he uses quite often**  
**V10 Immediately Jesus came out of the water of baptism**  
**V12 Immediately the Spirit drove Jesus to the wilderness**  
**V18 Immediately Simon and Andrew left their nets to follow Jesus**
- VIII) **In V19, 20, 21, 28, and 42 the translators chose to use the word immediately**  
**In V29, 30 and 43 the word is replaced with as soon, or at once**
- IX) **This is what we see here**  
**After speaking of Jesus' temptation, he introduced to us Jesus' teaching ministry**
- X) **These events actually occur between six months and and a year later**
- XI) **Jesus had been in the south, in Judea, but Mark bypassed it**  
**Jn 2:13-4:3 records what Jesus did, including the first cleansing of the Temple**  
**Jn 4 also records Jesus' ministry to the Woman of Samaria, but Mark**

ignores it

**XII) Mark was led by the Spirit to focus on the beginning of Jesus preaching ministry**

**He begins after John had been jailed for telling King Herod that he was in sin**

**Herod had taken his brother Philip's wife and was living in adultery**

**XIII) John was imprisoned for preaching against Herods' marriage to Herodias  
John preached that it was not permissible for Herod to be married to this woman**

**There were two reasons why it was wrong**

**I) FIRST: Herod stole Herodias from his half brother Philip while on a visit to Rome**

**Philip was half brother to Herod, having the same father and different mothers**

**II) This had provoked John the Baptist to openly confront his sin**

**Mt 14:3-4 Herod had laid hold of John and bound him, and put him in prison for the sake of Herodias, his brother Philip's wife. Because John had said to him, "It is not lawful for you to have her."**

**III) Notice how Matthew refers to Herodias as his brother Philip's wife:**

**The Holy Spirit did not allow Matthew to call Herodias his wife**

**IV) WHY: Because he was living in the state of adultery**

**To marry her, he had to divorce his wife and by marrying her he committed Adultery**

**Mk 10:11-12 And he says to them, Whoever shall put away his wife, and marry another, commits adultery against her. And if a woman shall put away her husband, and be married to another, she commits adultery.**

**V) SECOND: Herodias was the daughter of both Herod and Philip's half brother Aristobulus**

**This made Herodias his niece and by marrying her, he was guilty of incest**

**Lev 18:6 No one is to approach any close relative to have sexual relations. I am the LORD.**

**VI) When John confronted him, Herod put him into prison**

**Having his sin openly rebuked infuriated him and the conviction was immense**

- VII) He was so angry with John that he wanted to execute him, but at first would not  
 Mt 14:5 Although he wanted to put him to death, he feared the multitude, because they counted him as a prophet.
- VIII) When we come to chapter 6, we will look at this in more detail
- IX) V14 Tells us it was after John's arrest that Jesus began His public ministry in the north  
 Both John and Jesus had been ministering in the south, but Jesus now went north
- X) The southern Jews considered to northerners as unsophisticated  
 The fact was, Jesus' ministry in the north was a comment on the southern apostasy
- XI) Jerusalem was filled with religious corruption, from the leaders to the Temple  
 The Galilee region was actually more populated than the South  
 Because of the Via Maris, many travelers would cross through the Galilee  
 This gave Jesus opportunity to reach many people
- I) V14 Jesus came to Galilee preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God
- II) Mark had told us that when Jesus was baptized, He was anointed by the Spirit  
 The Spirit drove Him into the wilderness, where He resisted Satan's temptations
- III) After resisting Satan, He began His ministry and returns to the north  
 Lu 4:14-15 Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.
- IV) He comes to Galilee preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God  
 He was moving from town to town and village to village, preaching salvation
- V) He was preaching the gospel of the kingdom of God  
 Preaching the gospel is God's way of bringing salvation to people
- VI) When Mark began his book, he spoke of the beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ  
 I mentioned this referred to the written gospel

**VII) Here, Mark is referring to the spoken gospel, the message of salvation  
The gospel is speaking of the truth God has spoken concerning sin and  
judgment**

**He is making it clear concerning how they can enter into heaven**

**VIII) V15 and saying The kingdom of God is at hand Repent and believe in  
the gospel**

**He makes it clear that for them to enter in, repentance and faith  
in Him is necessary**

**IX) It is the message that speaks of the core of our problems in life**

**It is a message that says that sin has destroyed, and man needs to  
turn from it**

**X) Even in our day, the directness and simplicity of Jesus' message is our  
model**

**I am not called to only comment on culture or promote political  
candidates**

**I am not called to devise ways to attract audiences, or entertain  
bored people**

**XI) What a pastor is intended to do is to proclaim a message that  
transforms people**

**A message that calls for repentance and provides the power to  
change, internally**

**XII) It is not a message to be avoided or changed, but to be taught clearly**

**2 Co 2:17 Unlike so many, we do not peddle the word of God for  
profit. On the contrary, in Christ we speak before God with sincerity, as those  
sent from God.**

**XIII) It was and remains a message that is a call to change, and is not to be  
altered**

**I) This is because the message of the gospel when received transforms lives**

**It is the one message that contains the power of God to change us**

**1 Co 1:18 For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who  
are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.**

**II) The message is to be given clearly and with pure motives**

**Any who give such a message is to do so with integrity, desiring to please God**

**1 Th 2:3-4 For the appeal we make does not spring from error or impure motives, nor are we trying to trick you. On the contrary, we speak as those approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel. We are not trying to please people but God, who tests our hearts**

**III) At that time, the message of Jesus was radical and offensive to many**

**It still is, even to this day**

**This is why believers are not to change the gospel but to faithfully proclaim it**

**IV) V15 The time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God is at hand. Repent and believe in the**

**It is time for God to act in this work of redemption**

**The King has come, and it is time for people to receive Him**

**V) His kingdom advances one soul at a time**

**Because of this, people must hear, receive salvation and then tell others**

**VI) V16-20 And as He walked by the Sea of Galilee He saw Simon and Andrew his brother**

**VII) As Jesus was walking by the shore, He saw Simon and his brother Andrew**

**Jesus already knew these men having met them a few months earlier**

**VIII) Andrew had been a disciple of John the Baptist**

**He was with John when John called Jesus the Lamb of God (Jn 1:29)**

**The next day, Andrew had left the Baptist and attached himself to Jesus**

**IX) After spending the day with Jesus, Andrew went and got his brother Peter**

**Jn 1:41-42 The first thing Andrew did was to find his brother Simon and tell him, "We have found the Messiah" (that is, the Christ). And he brought him to Jesus. Jesus looked at him and said, You are Simon son of John. You will be called Cephas (which, when translated, is Peter).**

**X) Andrew and Peter were businessmen and had a partnership with James and John**

**It seems they were successful and apparently were well known by others**

**Peter owned his own home in Capernaum, and John was known by the High priest**

- I) This is when they are called into permanent discipleship, following Him full time  
Jesus gives them an invitation
- II) V17 Come after Me and I will make you become fishers of men. And they immediately left  
This is Jesus' call of these men to service
- III) In His day, Rabbi's would instruct people to follow their rules and traditions  
Jesus is not calling these men to follow traditions or religious rules
- IV) He is calling them to abandon their personal dreams and careers to follow Him
- V) This emphasizes that Jesus expected His men to love and follow Him above all else  
As His modern day followers, we are not commanded to abandon our careers  
We are commanded to place Him above any other master we may have pursued
- VI) In this calling we see that Jesus intended His work to continue into the future  
The church was designed by God to continue past the First Century
- VII) In selecting these fishermen He was creating a continuing work  
These men were to be His building blocks for the work of the Church on earth  
Eph 2:19-20 Consequently, you are no longer foreigners and aliens, but fellow citizens with God's people and members of God's household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.
- VIII) They were intended to impact their generation and that impact is to continue  
We are intended to reveal how wonderful and loving the God of the Universe is
- IX) The church has been created by God to shine as lights in a sin darkened world  
Even though the devil attempts to destroy God's work, he cannot succeed  
Mt 16:18 I tell you that you are Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not overcome it.
- X) The word church is the Greek word that means the called out ones  
It is used to speak of an assembly of people, or a congregation

**XI) Jesus was building an assembly of called out ones that would be His witnesses**

**As those called out of the world, we influence the world to come to Jesus**

**1 Pe 2:9 You are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light**

**I) God has called us to live a life that is recognizably different from non-believers  
We are called by God to influence this world for Jesus Christ until He returns**

**II) We are to do so by the message we give, and the message we live  
Titus 2:11-14 For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.**

**III) V16 He saw Simon and Andrew his brother casting a net into the sea; for they were  
God's calling and timing may interrupt your life!**

**IV) These men had an occupation picked out, but Jesus had different plans for them  
GOD HAS A WAY: Of interrupting our own plans, to bring us into His  
Jer 29:11 For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD,  
"plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.**

**V) These were simple fisherman, in many ways having advantages but actually ordinary**

**VI) God delights in using ordinary people to accomplish extraordinary things  
This is so that no one takes the credit for what God has accomplished  
1 Co 1:26-27 Brothers, think of what you were when you were called. Not many of you were wise by human standards; not many were influential; not many were of noble birth. But God chose the foolish things of the world to shame the wise; God chose the weak things of the world to shame the strong.**

**VII) It has been said: God delights in building on the foundation of human impossibilities!**

**VIII) V17 Then Jesus said to them Come after Me and I will make you become fishers of men**

**COME AFTER ME: This speaks of an immediate reaction, with no delay!**

**IX) Come after Me and I will make you become fishers of men**

**They understood immediately: instead of using nets, they would catch men, alive**

**The net they would use is the message Jesus would give them**

**X) V18 They immediately left their nets and followed Him**

**There was no hesitation or argument: they were obviously ready to do so**

**XI) SPURGEON: When Christ calls us by His grace we ought not only to remember what we are but we ought to think of what He can make us into...**

**I) They did not see themselves as the foundation of a new creation called the church**

**But God did, and He not only called them but He also equipped them to serve Him**

**II) We are to follow Him because He is developing and transforming us**

**He is the one fashioning us into fishers of men**

**Is 64:8 But now, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you our potter; and we all are they work of Your hand**

**III) V19-20 When He had gone a little farther from there, He saw James the son of Zebedee**

**This was not a word to only one or two people, but in reality to four**

**The work that was to be done needed many to be involved in it**

**IV) Interestingly, Jesus spoke of becoming fishers of men**

**This obviously gave insight into the commission to preach the gospel**

**V) One of the things that might be missed is found in V19**

**It gives us another insight into what the gospel is intended to do**

**VI) The gospel is intended to bring salvation and the preacher is to proclaim it**

**But what else does the gospel do? Why do we share the gospel of Jesus with people?**

**VII) V19 He saw James and John mending (repairing; preparing; restoring) their nets**



They were repairing their nets, fixing tears and preparing them for service

VIII) The word *mending* is the same word found in Ephesians 4 when it speaks of equipping

Eph 4:11-12 So Christ himself gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the pastors and teachers, to equip (mend; repair) his people for works of service, so that the body of Christ may be built up

IX) The apostles were fishermen who were experts at mending their nets

They are now going to fish for people and bring healing to their broken lives

X) The way that they will do this will be by caring for people and restoring their lives

They will do this as they teach them God's word, which will repair them

Ps 147:3 He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.

XI) Every one of us needs to believe and understand it is God's word that brings healing

Sympathy, compassion and empathy are helpers in bringing healing

XII) Still, it is God's word that brings healing to the broken

Scripture is so powerful it can completely transform you from the inside out.

I) Ps 19:7 The law of the LORD is perfect (lacks nothing), *restoring* the soul.

Restoring, refreshing, or reviving the soul (the essence, inner person, self, or heart)

Any broken life can be transformed by God's Word.

II) When Jesus ministered to the lost, He first preached the gospel

Within it was the power of God to save and transform those who believed

Lu 4:18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon Me, Because He anointed Me to preach the gospel to the poor. He has sent Me to proclaim release to the captives, And recovery of sight to the blind, To set free those who are oppressed

III) This is why Christians, especially pastor teachers, mend by teaching God's word

IV) V20 Immediately He called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat

with

**No excuses, no hesitation and no delay, only an instant response!**

**V) They left everything and followed Him**

**Mt 10:37-39 Anyone who loves his father or mother more than me is not worthy of me; anyone who loves his son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me; and anyone who does not take his cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Whoever finds his life will lose it, and whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.**

**VI) Jim Elliott: He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep in order to gain that which he cannot lose.**