

Bible Study #1 – Who Is This Man? - Text: Mark 1:1-15

The Gospel of Mark is the shortest Gospel, but it presents profound truths about Jesus Christ. Mark's purpose is not merely to provide information about Jesus but to lead us into an encounter with Him. Throughout the Gospel, one question continually surfaces: **"Who is this Man?"** Understanding who Jesus is changes everything. Mark 1:1 "The beginning of the good news about Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God."

1. Jesus Is the Promised Messiah - Mark 1:1-3

For centuries, Israel waited for the promised Deliverer. Prophets foretold His coming, and John the Baptist prepared the way. Jesus was not God's backup plan. He was God's plan from the beginning. Everything in the Old Testament pointed toward Him.

Discussion Questions

1. Why do you think Mark begins his Gospel by declaring that Jesus is the Messiah rather than allowing readers to discover it gradually?

2. How does understanding the Old Testament promises strengthen your confidence in God's faithfulness?

(Read Isaiah 40:3; Genesis 3:15; 2 Samuel 7:12-16.)

3. Why do many people want Jesus as a helper or advisor but resist receiving Him as Lord and Saviour?

2. Jesus Is the Beloved Son of God - Mark 1:9-11

At Jesus' baptism, we see the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit together. Before Jesus preached a sermon or performed a miracle, the Father declared His love and approval. Jesus ministered from the Father's love—not for the Father's love. Through Christ, we too are invited into a relationship with God as our Father.

John 14:9-10 Colossians 1:15-17,19

Discussion Questions

1. What does the Father's declaration at Jesus' baptism teach us about God's heart and His relationship with His Son?

2. How does Jesus reveal the character of God to us?

(Read John 14:9-10.)

3. What distorted views of God do people commonly have, and how does Jesus correct those misunderstandings?

3. **Jesus Is the King Who Invites Us Into His Kingdom** - Mark 1:14-15

"The time has come," he said. "The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!"

Jesus calls every person to respond. His invitation is simple: **Repent. Believe. Follow.**

Discussion Questions

1. What do you think Jesus meant when He announced that "the kingdom of God has come near"?

2. What is the difference between simply feeling sorry for sin and genuine repentance?

3. In what practical ways can we live under the rule and authority of King Jesus in our daily lives?

Three Responses

1. **Recognize Jesus for Who He Truly Is.**

2. **Trust the Heart of the Father Revealed Through Jesus.**

3. **Respond to the Invitation of the Kingdom.**