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WHY

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5 "Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the
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6 "Blessed are they who hunger and thirst for
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9 "Blessed are the merciful, for they shall be
called sons[a] of God.

10 "Blessed are those who are persecuted for
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2 He makes me lie down in green pasture
He leads me beside still waters.[a]
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WHY THE BIBLE MATTERS

WHY

Why are the Gospels Important?

They call us to follow Jesus.

Discipleship in Mark:

A disciple is someone who follows Jesus.

Disciples as Positive Examples: They were chosen by Jesus (Mark 1:16-20).

“16 As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 17 “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” 18 At once they left their nets and followed him.”

Disciples as Positive Examples: They were chosen by Jesus (Mark 1:16-20).

“19 When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. 20 Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.”

Disciples as Positive Examples: They were given special instruction (Mark 4:10-12).

“As soon as He was alone, His followers, along with the twelve, began asking Him about the parables. 11 And He was saying to them, “To you has been given the mystery of the kingdom of God, but those who are outside get everything in parables...”

Disciples as Positive Examples: They were empowered to represent Jesus (Mark 6:7).

“And He summoned the twelve and began to send them out in pairs, and gave them authority over the unclean spirit.”

The Failures of the Disciples: They didn't understand the parables (Mark 4:13)

“And He said to them, ‘Do you not understand this parable? How will you understand all the parables?’”

The Failures of the Disciples: They didn't understand the parables (Mark 7:17-18)

“When he had left the crowd and entered the house, His disciples questioned Him about the parable. 18 And He said to them, ‘Are you so lacking in understanding also? Do you not understand’”

The Failures of the Disciples: They didn't understand Jesus' power (Mark 6:51-52)

“Then He got into the boat with them, and the wind stopped; and they were utterly astonished, 52 for they had not gained any insight from the incident of the loaves, but their heart was hardened”

The Failures of the Disciples: They didn't understand Jesus' teaching (Mark 8:14-21)

“And they had forgotten to take bread, and did not have more than one loaf in the boat with them. 15 And He was giving orders to them, saying, "Watch out! Beware of the leaven of the Pharisees and the leaven of Herod." 16 They began to discuss with one another the fact that they had no bread.

The Failures of the Disciples: They didn't understand Jesus' teaching (Mark 8:14-21)

17 And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "Why do you discuss the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet see or understand? Do you have a hardened heart? 18 "Having eyes, do you not see? And having ears, do you not hear? And do you not remember, Do you not yet

An Unusual Miracle and Lesson: A Two Stage Healing (Mark 8:22-26)

“laying His hands on him, He asked him, “Do you see anything?” 24 And he looked up and said, “I see men, for I see them like trees, walking around.” 25 Then again He laid His hands on his eyes; and he looked intently and was restored, and began to see everything clearly.”

An Unusual Miracle and Lesson: Peter's Partial Insight (Mark 8:27-32)

29 And he asked them, “But who do you say that I am?” Peter answered him, “You are the Christ. . . . 31 And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things . . . 32 And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him.”

Following Jesus: Mark 8:34-38

34 "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. 35 For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake and the gospel's will save it. 36 For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul? 37 For what can a man give in return for his soul?

The one who would not follow (Mark 10:17-22)

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