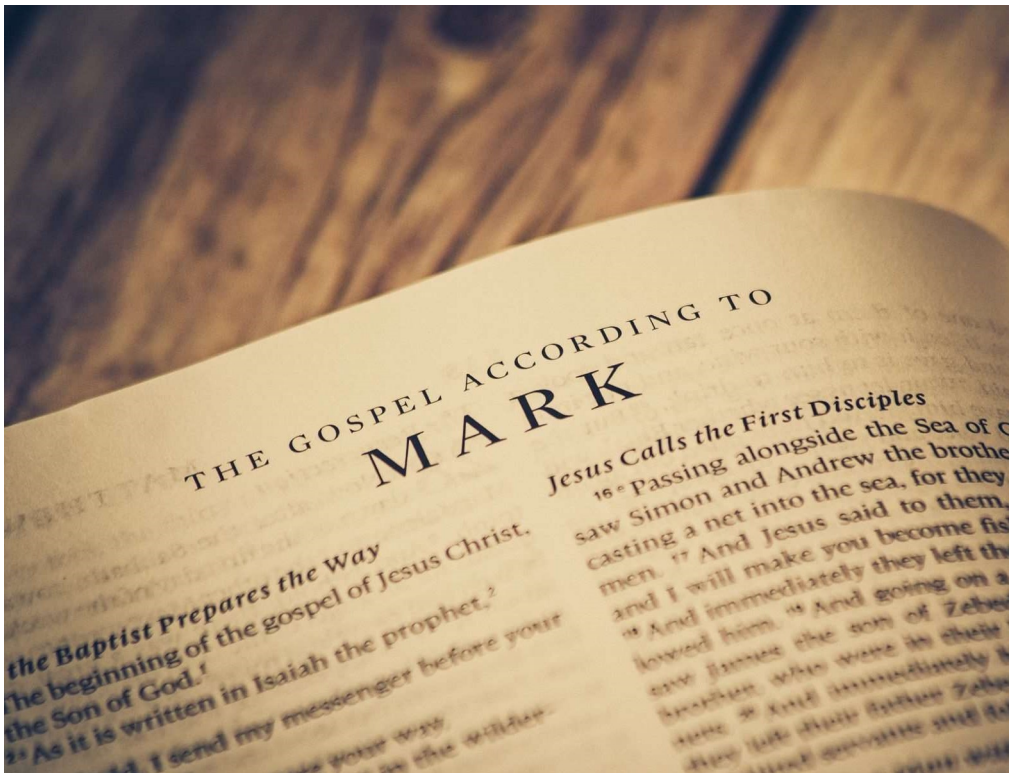


Let's Worship God

9th-14th December 2019

Mark



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

Jesus Calls the First Disciples
16^a Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he
saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon
casting their nets into the sea, for they were fish-
ermen. He said to them, "Follow

Monday - Mark 13:32-37 - Watchfulness

Jesus has been telling His disciples what will happen when Jerusalem is destroyed, and what their lives as Christians are going to be like. Now, He tells them what it will be like at the end of the world when He comes again. Jesus is teaching His disciples that the day will come when He will return in power and glory to judge the world. But He goes on to make the point that no one knows when this day is coming. Our job as Christians is not to try to guess when He is coming back but to watch, pray, and work.

Christians are to watch. Jesus could return at any moment, or we could die at any time. We must be constantly prepared to meet our Lord. We must be faithful and obedient, and we must stay away from anything that would make us unfaithful. We have to watch against becoming lazy or dull in our love and obedience to the Lord. Christians are to spend regular time in prayer to the Lord. How can you be prepared to meet Jesus if you never talk to Him? We also have to pray that God would keep us faithful and obedient. Finally, Christians are to work. We are servants of a great Master who has given each of us a job to do; we are to do that job the best we can in order to please God. Our Master will return and hold us accountable for what we have done. We must not be found sleeping - thinking we are safe in our routine and forgetting to do our work and forgetting our Saviour. Do we live as if we expected Christ to come again?

Questions

1. Does anyone know when Jesus will come again?
2. What three things are we to do while we are waiting for Jesus?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that God would give us the ability to be faithful to Him.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time," Mark 10:29b-30a

Praise: Psalm 102 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

Jesus Calls the First Disciples
16- Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he
saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon
casting their nets into the sea, for they were fish

Tuesday - Mark 14:1-9 - A Good Name and Fine Perfume

The chief priests have come to a decision - Jesus must die. But they are sneaky and know that they must manage the crowds properly. They want to make Jesus' death a quiet thing, but God is going to turn their evil plans to good and make the crucifixion an incredibly public event.

Meanwhile, Jesus has been staying with friends in Bethany and going into Jerusalem during the day. The story we have in these verses seems to parallel John 12:1-11, where Jesus is at a meal in His honour and Mary anoints Him with costly perfume. The disciples, especially Judas, object to this. Judas has been stealing from the money box, John tells us, so he sees this as a lost opportunity to fill his own pockets. The disciples can't imagine putting themselves to such an expense on Christ's behalf, so they criticise this woman. They think she has misplaced priorities, but they are the ones with real misplaced priorities - they want to take away from Jesus to give to the poor. Even today people want to serve God in moderation, and they mock those who give to Him wholeheartedly.

Jesus is making the point that you can never give too much to God. You can't solve all the world's problems, and you're not asked to. Instead, you are to serve God with what you have, where you are, like this woman. She loses nothing, for in exchange for her expensive perfume she is repaid with a good name which Ecclesiastes says is far better (Ecclesiastes 7:1).

Questions

1. What decision did the chief priests come to?
2. Why were the disciples angry at what the woman did?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would give all we have joyfully to the Lord.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time," Mark 10:29b-30a

Praise: Psalm 103 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

Jesus Calls the First Disciples
16 - Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, he
Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon
into the sea, for they were fish
said to them, "Follow

Wednesday - Mark 14:10-16 - The Passover Lamb

Judas has been a follower of Jesus for three years. He has been one of the inner circle of twelve, seeing the miracles and hearing the teachings. But at the end of the day, Judas loves money more than he loves the Lord. There are plenty of Judases in the church - people who pretend to be followers of Jesus, but in their hearts they love something else much more than they love the Lord.

Jesus sends His disciples into Jerusalem to prepare for the Passover. He is asking people to serve Him in small ways - to give Him a room, to cook the lamb, and make the other necessary arrangements. Unquestioning obedience in the small things is just as necessary and honouring to God as in the big things.

It is no coincidence that Jesus is killed during the Passover. From the very beginning the Passover looks forward to Jesus. As the Jews eat this feast, remembering their slavery in Egypt and how the blood of the perfect lamb that is killed, put on the doorposts of their house, caused the angel of death to pass over them, the true Passover Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, is about to die. He is the final sacrifice whose blood, claimed by believers and applied to their lives, will cause God's wrath and judgement to pass over them, and they will be delivered from their slavery to Satan.

Questions

1. Why did Judas betray Jesus?
2. What happened in Egypt at Passover?
3. Why is Jesus like the Passover lamb?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would obey God in the little things.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time," Mark 10:29b-30a

Praise: Psalm 104 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

Jesus Calls the First Disciples
16^a Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee, Jesus saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon, who were mending their nets in the sea, for they were following him. He called to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Thursday - Mark 14:17-25 - The Lord's Supper

Judas is given many opportunities to repent and love Jesus, but he always hardens his heart, and so he will be judged even more for all the opportunities he refuses. Jesus tells His disciples that He will be betrayed just as the Scriptures have prophesied, but the betrayer is still terribly responsible for what he does. To the disciples credit, instead of doubting each other, they doubt themselves. We must remember that if it weren't for the grace of God, we would all be like Judas.

Jesus then sets up the Lord's Supper to replace the Passover. The Passover looks forward to what Jesus is going to do; the Lord's Supper looks back at what Jesus has done. The breaking of bread reminds us of Jesus' body broken on the cross for our sake; the drinking of wine reminds us of His blood that was shed to cover our sins. When we take part in the Lord's Supper we are remembering what Christ has done, just like the Jews remembered what the Passover lamb had done when they ate it. Our eating the Lord's Supper is a symbol of us taking God's salvation for ourselves. In the same way that eating strengthens and refreshes our bodies, the Lord's Supper strengthens and refreshes our souls, and we look forward to heaven when we will eat and drink with Christ.

Questions

1. What does the bread and wine symbolise in the Lord's Supper?
2. How does the Lord's Supper help us?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for the Lord's Supper.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time," Mark 10:29b-30a

Praise: Psalm 105 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
MARK

Jesus Calls the First Disciples
16 Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee
Peter and Andrew the brother of Simon
went into the sea, for they were
fishing.

Friday - Mark 14:26-31 - Love Despite Failures

At the end of the Lord's Supper, Jesus and His disciples probably sing Psalms 63-68 which are usually sung at the end of the Passover Feast. Then they go to the Mount of Olives. Here Jesus tells them that the time is coming when they will all leave Him. He knew when He chose these 12 men that in His darkest hour one will betray Him, and the others will run away. He still chose them. Jesus still loves those who believe in Him, despite their many failures. He knows what we are, but He still promises never to leave us. If Jesus can bear with our failures, we should be able to bear with the failures of other Christians.

Peter has no problem believing that the other disciples might desert Jesus, but he refuses to believe that he will do so. His pride in his own strength makes him insist that he will never deny Jesus. Peter, as usual, is the mouthpiece for all the other disciples. He even speaks for all Christians who trust in their own strength and forget how sinful they really are.

Jesus has spoken of His betrayal, desertion, and death, but He has also spoken of His resurrection, but the disciples do not pay attention to this. Because they never listen to the promise of hope, they will sink into despair as each of Jesus' prophecies comes true. Just like the disciples we often despair from not paying attention to the many promises in the Bible that could comfort and encourage us.

Questions

1. What does Peter refuse to believe?
2. What promise were the disciples always ignoring or forgetting?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for the unfailing love God has for His people.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time," Mark 10:29b-30a

Praise: Psalm 106 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO
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Jesus Calls the First Disciples
16 Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee
Simon and Andrew the brother of St
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said to them, "Foll

Saturday - Mark 14:32-42 - Watch and Pray

Jesus and His disciples go into the Garden of Gethsemane. He takes the three disciples, who are the most confident that they can suffer with Him, further into the garden to pray with Him. Never has anyone felt sorrow the way that Jesus is feeling it. He fully realises the suffering He is going to go through. The burden and guilt of the sins of the world will be pressed down upon Him who is perfect and holy. It is not possible for Jesus to be the Messiah and avoid the cross; the cup, the symbol of the suffering and wrath of God upon His enemies, must be drunk on our behalf. This should help us realise how awful our sin is, and how much Christ can understand what sorrow is like. So what does Jesus do in this time of great sorrow? He prays, and not just once but several times, and in His prayers He is willing to submit to what God wants.

Meanwhile, Peter and the other disciples fail to take the only steps that can save them from deserting and denying Christ - earnest prayer and watchfulness. In prayer we confess our weakness and ask God for power to go and obey. This is faith - realising our weakness and turning to God. Prayerful obedience is faith in action. God has given us prayer as our comfort and help in all situations.

Questions

1. Why was Jesus so sorrowful?
2. What did Jesus do when He was sad?
3. What should the disciples have been doing?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"Or children or lands, for my sake and for the gospel, who will not receive a hundredfold now in this time," Mark 10:29b-30a

Praise: Psalm 107 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced for the RP Global Alliance
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If you have any queries please contact - admin@rpglobalalliance.org