Let's Worship God

30th Sept. - 5th Oct. 2019 Mark

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO Jesus Calls the First Disciples us Caus in alongside the Sea of a 16 Passing and Andrew the brothe saw Simon an into the sea, for they casting a net into the said to the and I will make you become fis he beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ. and formerlistely they left th the Baptist Prepares the Way And them a And going on a men s it is written in Isaiah the prophet. send my messenger before your linenes the som of we where were to a serie internet he Son of God." to state and an



Monday - Mark 1:1-8 - It's All About Jesus

We are now going to take a look at the book of Mark. Mark is one of the disciples of Jesus, so this book is an eyewitness account of the things Jesus says and does.

Mark begins by telling us that he is writing about the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The word 'gospel' means 'good news'. This isn't the gospel or good news of Mark, but the good news of Jesus. Not just an ordinary man named Jesus, it's the good news of God who has come to earth to save us.

There should be nothing unexpected about the coming of Jesus Christ into the world. It happens just as the prophets of the Old Testament say it will. Isaiah says God will send a messenger before the Messiah to prepare the people, and here is John the Baptist doing just that.

John preaches that the people should repent of their sins and be baptised to show their desire for forgiveness. Hundreds of people from all over that area come to hear this man who looks and acts like one of the old prophets they have always heard stories about. John is the last of the old prophets; just like all the other prophets, he tells the people of One who is coming - someone greater than himself who has the power to change hearts and lives. John could've been caught up in all his popularity, but he, like Mark, keeps the focus on the Lord Jesus Christ.

Questions

- 1. What does the word 'gospel' mean?
- 2. What prophet spoke of the coming of John the Baptist?
- 3. What was the message of John the Baptist?

Prayer Points

- 1. Give thanks that God sent His Son into the world.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

He said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Mark 8:34b

Praise: Psalm 42 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Tuesday - Mark 1:9-15 - 'The Time Has Come!'

Jesus now makes His first public appearance - He comes to be baptised by John. Why? Not because He is sinful and wants to be forgiven, but because He is beginning His ministry and taking upon Himself the sign that He belongs to God. This is a baptism unlike any other, for all three persons of the Trinity are there: Jesus, the Son of God, the Holy Spirit, in the form of a dove, and God the Father speaks from heaven. The Father tells the whole world how much He loves His Son, and how Jesus is on earth with His approval.

Before He begins preaching, Jesus is sent to the desert where He is tempted by Satan, protected from wild animals, and taken care of by angels. Perhaps this is a time of preparation for His three years of ministry to come.

By the time Jesus begins His ministry John the Baptist has been thrown in prison, but God has raised up another and greater One to preach. Jesus tells the people of Galilee that the time spoken of through the whole Old Testament has finally come. Men are now called to repent of their sins and believe in the Saviour. Repentance and faith always go together; you can't have a changed heart without a changed life.

Questions

- 1. Why did Jesus come to be baptised?
- 2. How were all three persons of the Trinity there at Jesus' baptism?
- 3. What was Jesus' message to the people of Galilee?

Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that our changed hearts would show in changed lives.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

He said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Mark 8:34b

Praise: Psalm 43 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Wednesday - Mark 1:16-22 - 'At Once They Left Their Nets'

Jesus has begun His ministry, and now He calls His disciples. He doesn't need help, but He takes the time to train men for ministry because, looking at the big picture, He knows He will not always be there. He doesn't pick men from the greatest schools in the country to be His followers, instead He picks fishermen, usually rough and uneducated. It's just another example of the amazing power of God that He transforms these rough, slow, ignorant fishermen into bold preachers of truth.

Jesus' call to these men to follow Him isn't an easy one. They will have to leave their families, their safe jobs, and their homes - everything that stands in the way of them following Jesus. Jesus is asking for complete and total commitment, and by the grace of God, in one of the greatest decisions of their lives, these men obey completely and perfectly. With no hesitation, Mark tells us, they immediately leave everything and follow their Lord. What is the job Jesus has for these men? They are to be fishers of men - to bring men into the net of Christ's Church.

Jesus now wastes no time but goes into the synagogue on the sabbath and begins to preach. Everyone is amazed at the way He talks because unlike the other teachers, Jesus doesn't quote old Pharisees, He just speaks as though He knows the mind of God - which of course, He does!

Questions

- 1. Why did Jesus call disciples?
- 2. What was Jesus asking these fishermen to do?
- 3. What was their response?

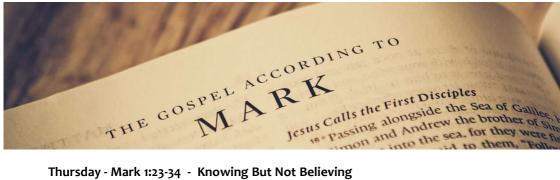
Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that we would follow Christ completely and perfectly.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

He said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Mark 8:34b

Praise: Psalm 44 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Thursday - Mark 1:23-34 - Knowing But Not Believing

While Jesus is speaking in the synagogue, a man, possessed by a demon, cries out to Him. (It's interesting that a demon-possessed man can go seemingly unnoticed in the synagogue.) This demon knows who Jesus is, understands the things He teaches, but doesn't trust in Him. It is one thing to admit that Jesus is a Saviour; it's quite another to say Jesus is my Saviour, and this demon-possessed man isn't about to do that. Jesus commands the demon to be quiet and leave the man because He doesn't want this grudging acceptance of who He is. Amazed at the miracle Jesus has performed, the people in the synagogue spread the story far and wide, but even though this miracle makes men wonder, we don't read that it makes them believe.

Going to Peter's house, Jesus finds that Peter's mother-in-law is sick with a fever. He heals her so completely that not only does the fever leave her, but she is strong enough to get up and serve her guests. Jesus heals us, just as completely, of our sin, giving us the strength to serve Him.

At the end of the day the whole town has gathered at the door of Peter's house with their sick and demon-possessed for Jesus to heal. They have learned where to go for help, and they waste no time in doing so.

Ouestions

- 1. Why did Jesus want the demon to be quiet?
- 2. What did Peter's mother-in-law do, once she was healed?
- 3. Why was the whole town at the doorstep?

Prayer Points

- 1. Give thanks that Jesus heals us of our sin.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

He said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Mark 8:34b

Praise: Psalm 45 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Friday - Mark 1:35-39 - Rising Early To Pray

Jesus has been preaching and healing all weekend and probably late into the night. He must be exhausted. No one can blame Him if He takes the next day off and has a long lie. Or perhaps He can build upon His quickly growing popularity by getting up and continuing to heal the crowds. But He does neither. Getting up quite early, He goes off to a quiet place to pray. Jesus doesn't stop serving God between sabbaths. Instead He makes His relationship with God His number one priority by placing such great importance on spending time in prayer.

Some time later the disciples come looking for Him. Simon Peter seems to have chosen himself to be the public relations advisor to Jesus, and he and the others can't believe that Jesus picks a time like this to go off on His own. Doesn't He realise that there are massive crowds looking for Him! He needs to keep making public appearances if He wants to really climb the leadership ladder.

Jesus gently tells the disciples that they are to move on to other villages because the reason for His coming is not so that He can win a popularity contest, but to preach - to preach the good news of salvation.

Questions

- 1. What did Jesus choose to do after His busy weekend?
- 2. What did the disciples think Jesus should've been doing?
- 3. What was Jesus' purpose in coming to earth?

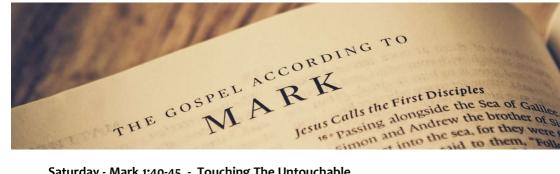
Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that we would make prayer a priority in our life.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

He said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Mark 8:34b

Praise: Psalm 46 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



Saturday - Mark 1:40-45 - Touching The Untouchable

A man with leprosy comes to Jesus and asks to be healed. Leprosy is a disease that attacks the whole body slowly rotting it away. Lepers are considered unclean and untouchable. This leper knows that he is unclean and untouchable, and he has a tremendous desire to be clean, so he comes in total humility to Jesus. He believes that Jesus has the power to heal him, but he knows that it is up to Jesus to decide to do it. Sinners are like lepers to God, and just like this leper they must understand how sinful they are, want to be forgiven of their sins, humbly come to Jesus asking for salvation, and believe that He can give it to them.

Compassionately, Jesus heals this leper, and then He tells him to make the sacrifices commanded when someone's leprosy has gone and to tell no one what has happened. Jesus doesn't want people following Him just because they want to be healed. He is primarily a teacher, not a healer, and He wants to keep the focus on His message.

The leper doesn't obey and spreads the news of his healing far and wide. The crowds coming after Jesus become so large that He is forced to stay outside the towns. Disobedience to Christ, even from good motives, always results in more harm than good.

Questions

- 1. What was wrong with lepers?
- 2. What did this leper believe about Christ?
- 3. Why did Jesus tell him to keep silent?

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

He said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me." Mark 8:34b

Praise: Psalm 47 - 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 by the Reformed Presbyterian Church of Scotland.

If you have any queries please contact - admin@rpglobalalliance.org