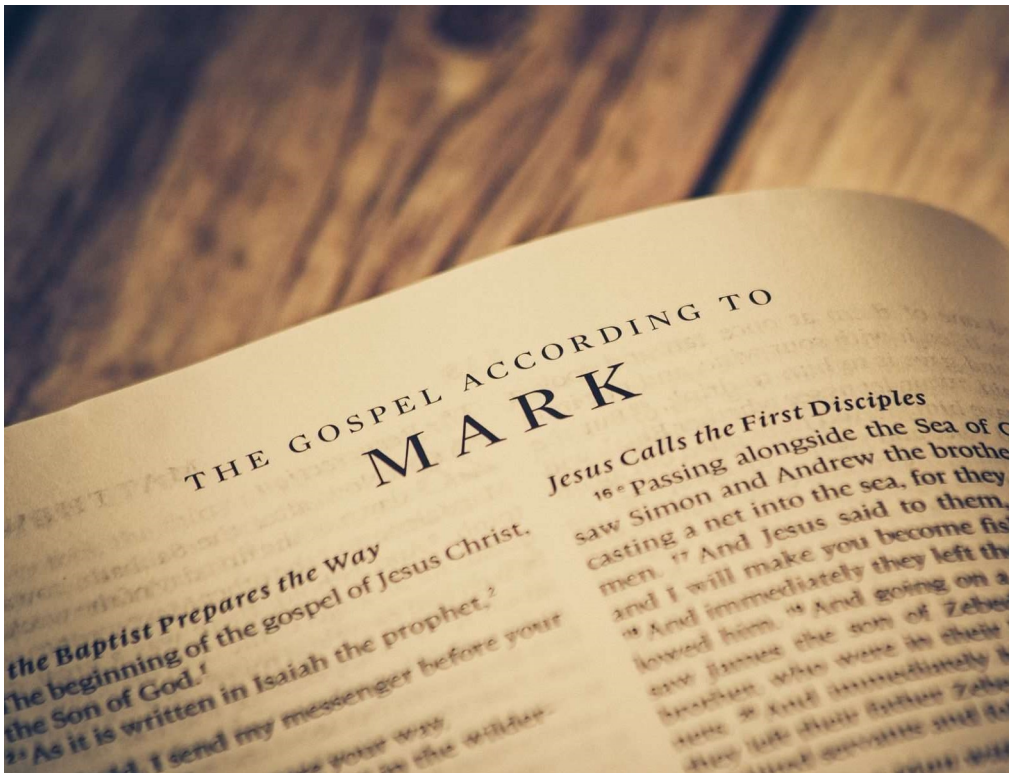


Let's Worship God

7th-12th October 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,
and he called them into the sea, for they were fishing.
He said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men."

Monday - Mark 3:31-35 - Brothers and Sisters of Jesus

In verse 21 of chapter 3, we see that Jesus' family have decided that Jesus has lost His mind, and they are coming to save Him from Himself. They arrive here in verse 31 to find Jesus still surrounded by crowds and still preaching to those crowds.

Showing that they just don't understand who Jesus is and what He is doing, they don't even bother to come into the building where He is teaching. Instead they send a messenger in to interrupt His sermon and tell Him that they're waiting outside. They obviously think Jesus should drop whatever nonsense He is doing and come meet with them. Probably those in the crowd also assume that Jesus will drop everything to talk to His family.

Jesus, however, asks who His family is. The crowd must be pretty confused by that question. Does Jesus think He is an orphan? They can tell Him who His family is, in fact, they are right outside. But Jesus is making the important point that because of who He is, His family must have a spiritual relationship with Him like everyone else. Just because He grew up with these people doesn't give them a special claim to Him, in the same way that merely attending church doesn't give one a special claim with God. Those who believe and do God's will are the ones with whom Jesus has a close, personal relationship and counts as His real family.

Questions

1. Why had Jesus' family come?
2. Why didn't Jesus go talk to them?
3. Who are Jesus' real family?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that Jesus considers us His brothers and sisters.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?"
Mark 8:36

Praise: Psalm 54 - 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 4:1-20 - Which Kind Of Hearer Are You?

Jesus now goes back to teaching, but this time from a boat anchored in shallow water to the crowd on the shore. He begins with a parable, which is a story that uses everyday examples to make a point. Parables grab the crowd's attention, but they also require thought. Some will hear the parables, be totally confused, and not think anymore about what Jesus is saying, but others, who truly want to know who Jesus is, will think about it and ask Jesus to help them understand. In this way, parables will separate those who believe in Jesus from those who are just there listening because everyone else is. The disciples, not understanding the parable, ask Jesus to explain it to them. We should follow their example by praying when we are faced with something in the Bible we don't understand.

Jesus explains the parable by saying that God's Word should go out to all people indiscriminately, but they will react in different ways because they have different hearts. Some will hear God's Word preached and will pay absolutely no attention. Others will seem to believe, but the moment some trouble comes their way, they will turn away from God. Some will seem to be hearing and obeying and growing, but they never get past a certain point. There is always something that keeps them from giving their whole heart to God. The last group of people are those who believe, hear the Word of God preached, and apply it wholeheartedly to their lives.

Questions

1. Why did Jesus teach in parables?
2. What were the four kinds of soil the seed was sown in?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that God would give us the desire to understand His Word.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?"
Mark 8:36

Praise: Psalm 55 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO MARK

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Wednesday - Mark 4:21-25 - Working Hard to Obey God

Jesus has just explained the parable of the sower to His disciples. They now have a big responsibility. They have been given a knowledge and understanding of the truth, and it is their job to tell that truth to others. The Gospel is never meant to be a secret. Instead, the truth of who Jesus Christ is must be spoken to all we know, so we can be like lights that shine in the world where many are confused and in the dark. God's plan of salvation is meant to be brought out into the open. It is the responsibility of everyone who believes and understands about Jesus Christ to explain it to others.

Jesus then goes on to teach the great importance of listening to God's Word and then applying it to your life. As we take every opportunity to hear God's Word preached, read God's Word, and pray, God will bless us even more. Our understanding and growth as Christians will increase as will our gifts and responsibilities. The harder we work at doing what God says, the more opportunities God will give us to obey Him and be blessed. But there is a warning here that as we disobey God and refuse to take these opportunities to grow as a Christian, those opportunities will vanish, and we will be left with nothing, facing the judgement of God.

Questions

1. How are Christians to be like lamps?
2. What happens if we work hard at doing what God says?
3. What happens if we don't?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would tell all around us about Jesus Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?"

Mark 8:36

Praise: Psalm 56 - 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, Jesus saw Simon and Andrew the brother of Simon, who were mending their nets. He called to them, "Follow me, and I will make you become fishers of men."

Thursday - Mark 4:26-29 - Finishing What He's Started

Jesus now gives us a wonderful picture of what salvation and growth as a Christian is like. First, we see that in order for a seed to grow, it has to be planted by someone. This is why our ministers are so important. God has chosen the preaching of His Word to be the number one tool He uses to save people. God alone can change their hearts, but our job is to bring people to church where they can hear God's Word being preached. We don't know how the Holy Spirit changes hearts and causes people to believe, it is a mystery to us, just like the mystery of how a seed grows, but the great thing is that the Holy Spirit does change hearts and lives.

Second, we see that change in a person is gradual and starts off in small ways. However, even at its weakest, it is still a plant, and the weakest Christian is still a child of God. The change and growth in a Christian will not fail as Paul writes in Philippians, "He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." (Philippians 1:6) Even though the growth starts off small, it will continue to grow until it is full-sized and flourishing, just as a Christian will continue to grow in being more like Christ.

Finally, Jesus teaches that God never removes His people from this earth until they are ready, and their work is done. Christians will never die at the wrong time.

Questions

1. What does a seed need in order to grow?
2. Why are ministers so important?
3. Who completes the work in a Christian?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for men who faithfully preach God's Word.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?"
Mark 8:36

Praise: Psalm 57 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



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16 Passing alongside the Sea of Galilee
... and Andrew the brother of Simon
... into the sea, for they were
... to them.

Friday - Mark 4:30-34 - Small Beginnings

Jesus is telling parables to describe the kingdom of heaven. What is the kingdom of heaven? The church. His first parable is about how individuals in the church believe and grow as Christians. Now, He is going to describe how the whole church grows.

He compares the church to one of the smallest and tiniest seeds, the mustard seed. This tiny seed then grows into a large and far-reaching plant. The church itself has a small, weak, seemingly insignificant beginning, when all the followers of Jesus are able to fit in one room. However, the church grows and fills the earth in amazing ways as these believers take the Gospel everywhere.

The church hasn't finished growing yet, and this parable is a wonderful promise of how great the church will be. We must be careful not to despise small beginnings in a church because God does great things with small beginnings.

Jesus speaks in parables using simple examples of everyday things, but He takes the time to explain the parables to His disciples knowing that one day they will need to explain and teach them to others.

Questions

1. What is the kingdom of heaven?
2. What was the church like when it first began?
3. Why did Jesus explain His parables to the disciples?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for those men in ministry in our churches.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?”
Mark 8:36

Praise: Psalm 58 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



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Saturday - Mark 4:35-41 - Calming the Storm

After preaching all day, Jesus decides to cross over to the other side of the lake. Leaving the crowd, they immediately set off. Some other boats come along as well, possibly with people in them who are determined to follow Jesus wherever He goes. Exhausted by His long day, Jesus falls asleep in the boat.

While Jesus is sleeping a terrible storm comes up and threatens to sink the boat. Just because the disciples are following and serving Christ doesn't mean they are kept from storms and trouble. The disciples are terrified and can't believe that Jesus is sleeping through the storm. Even though they are wrong to be afraid, at least they know where to go for help with their fears, and they wake Jesus up and accuse Him of not caring if they drown.

Jesus gets up and quickly calms the storm just by speaking to it. The wind and the sea know that this is their Creator speaking to them. They recognise His power and authority even if the disciples have forgotten all the miracles He's done. The disciples stand there with open mouths, and Jesus turns to them and asks them why they were so afraid. Don't they realise that the Lord Jesus Christ can calm any storm and take care of His people in any situation? The disciples turn from fear of the storm to fear of Jesus as they try to understand who exactly He is.

Questions

1. Why was Jesus sleeping?
2. How did Jesus stop the storm?
3. Why was Jesus able to stop the storm?

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

"For what does it profit a man to gain the whole world and forfeit his soul?"
Mark 8:36

Praise: Psalm 59 - 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