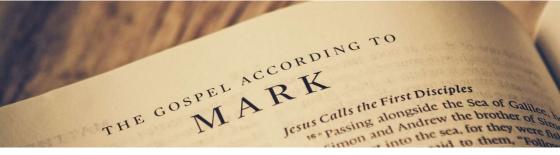
# Let's Worship God

# 11th-16th November 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 and 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 with mediately they left th the Baptist Prepares the Way And them a And going on a men is it is written in Isaiah the prophet.' formed the oct of Zebe send my messenger before your use when wante its W XIII GANNER he Son of God." to stude and



# Monday - Mark 8:34-38 - The Cost of Following Jesus

Jesus has been talking to His disciples about who He is and what He has come to do. They are beginning to realise that He is the Promised One or Messiah, but they still think that the Messiah is going to save them, not from their sin, but from the Roman Empire. Jesus calls the crowd to Him and begins to explain that His Messiahship is very different. If the people don't understand what kind of Saviour He is, how will they understand what it means to follow Him? So, Jesus tells them.

Jesus doesn't hide from the people that it is hard to be one of His followers, but He also makes clear that it is worth it. The cost of following Jesus Christ and gaining eternal life is death but not a physical death - a death to what you want or what those around you want. It is when you care about and obey what God says and what God wants more than you care about what you or others say and want. It is through this death to yourself and the world that you will have life. It isn't easy - you might suffer pain and trouble, but those who try to run their lives themselves will end up losing their lives. Jesus also explains how very valuable your soul is. You have the power to destroy your soul, but only Jesus Christ has the power to save it.

Jesus ends by saying that even though He is now on earth as a humble Servant, the time will come when He will return as Judge from whom nothing will be hidden.

# Questions

- 1. What kind of Messiah is Jesus?
- 2. What will happen one day if you have been ashamed of Jesus?

# **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray that we would die to what we want and live for what God wants.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

### **Memory Verse**

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God." Mark 10:27a

# Praise: Psalm 78 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



## Tuesday - Mark 9:1-13 - A Glorious Vision

Jesus has just told His disciples that some of them won't die until they see His kingdom in power. Now, He is going to keep that promise by taking Peter, James, and John with Him up a mountain. This event in Jesus' life is often called the Transfiguration. To be transfigured is to appear or look different from normal. The disciples stand there and before their very eyes they see the same Jesus but with a completely, amazingly, different appearance. And that's not all! They also see Him talking to Moses and Elijah! They are so scared that Peter, not knowing what to say but thinking he has to say something, blurts out his silly idea of building three tabernacles. But God has a point to make here. He has spoken to the people through Moses giving him the Law, and He has spoken to the people through the prophets whom Elijah represents, and now, He makes it clear that He is speaking through Jesus, His Son. Then everything vanishes, and as they go back down the mountain Jesus tells them not to tell anyone until after His resurrection. But the disciples still don't take the idea of rising from the dead literally, and they are confused over Malachi's prophecy that one like Elijah will come before the Messiah. Jesus explains that one like Elijah has come - John the Baptist, but he has suffered the same rejection that Jesus will suffer.

#### Questions

- 1. What does the Transfiguration mean?
- 2. Who all was on the mountain with Jesus?
- 3. Who was the one like Elijah who came before the Messiah?

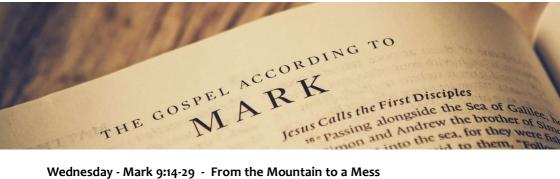
# Prayer Points

- 1. Give thanks that Jesus Christ is our King.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### Memory Verse

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God." Mark 10:27a

# Praise: Psalm 79 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



# Wednesday - Mark 9:14-29 - From the Mountain to a Mess

Jesus comes down off the mountain to a colossal mess. A man with very little faith has brought his demon-possessed son to be healed. The disciples try to heal the boy without even bothering to ask God for help and fail embarrassingly, and the scribes are right there pointing out their failure and causing even more trouble. You couldn't ask for a greater contrast from the scene of glory Jesus just left. Most of us would've turned and gone right back up that mountain. But Jesus has left His glory behind to come and sort out our messes.

Jesus rebukes everyone from the scribes to the father to the disciples for their lack of faith. The father asks Jesus "if He can" to heal his son. Jesus immediately latches on to that key phrase - "if He can". The father isn't even sure if Jesus can heal his son! Jesus turns everything around by saying the problem isn't with His ability, the problem is with the man's belief. Instantly the father realises how much he needs Jesus, says he believes, and asks Jesus to help him believe even more.

Jesus answers the man by healing his son. When the disciples ask Him why they weren't able to heal the boy, Jesus reminds them that they can't do anything on their own. They need to go to God in prayer and fasting for help, but they forgot this and are unable to heal as a result.

#### Questions

- 1. What was going on when Jesus came down from the mountain?
- 2. What did the father question about Jesus?

#### **Prayer Points**

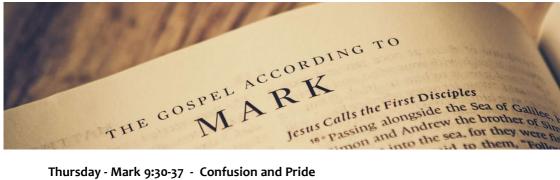
1. Pray that God would increase our faith, and that we would spend more time asking God for help with our problems.

- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### Memory Verse

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God." Mark 10:27a

Praise: Psalm 80 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



# Thursday - Mark 9:30-37 - Confusion and Pride

Leaving the crowds behind, Jesus takes time to teach the disciples. He wants them to thoroughly understand the kind of Messiah and Saviour He is. Jesus is training these men to explain who He is to others when He is gone. So, He tells them about what is going to be happening to Him. When Jesus talks about His death, He always mentions His resurrection as well. But the disciples still don't or won't understand what He is saying. It doesn't fit in with the ideas they already have in their own heads, and they are too proud to ask Jesus to explain.

This same confusion about who Jesus is and the disciples' own pride, starts an argument on the road to Capernaum. Because the disciples still think Jesus is going to be a great political and military leader here on earth, despite what He has told them, they want to know which of them is going to be the greatest in Jesus' new government. But Jesus turns their ideas upside down by telling them again that His kingdom is one of humility, service, and love for others. Those who are great in His kingdom are those who care about and love others, not those who only care about themselves.

# Ouestions

- 1. What does Jesus tell His disciples is going to happen to Him?
- 2. What were the disciples arguing about?
- 3. Who did Jesus say would be first in His kingdom?

#### Prayer Points

- 1. Pray that we would care about and love others.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### Memory Verse

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God." Mark 10:27a

# Praise: Psalm 81 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



# Friday - Mark 9:38-50 - Living Like a Christian

No sooner does Jesus finish dealing with the disciples' argument over which of them is the greatest, when He has to deal with their pride again. Someone outside their group is doing miracles, and they proudly tell Jesus that they have told the man to stop. But Jesus says that just because the man isn't working right there with the other disciples, it doesn't mean that he is not working for Jesus. Those who show kindness or help to others in Jesus' name are showing kindness and help to Jesus.

Jesus then teaches the disciples about how terrible sin is. He warns them of the danger of tempting someone else to sin or stumble in their relationship with Him. He tells them to avoid sin in themselves no matter what the cost - they must care more for their own souls. Even if that sin is something important to them, it must be ruthlessly destroyed otherwise it will cause them to go to an awful eternity in Hell.

Every Christian has the Holy Spirit working in his heart causing him to think and live in a way that brings glory to God. This is the salt Jesus is talking about - the Biblical way a Christian lives making him different from the rest of the world. A Christian who doesn't care or follow what the Bible has to say is like salt that has lost its saltiness - worthless.

#### Questions

- 1. What did Jesus say about the man doing miracles?
- 2. What must we do to things causing us to sin?

#### **Prayer Points**

- 1. Pray that we would live in a "salty" way.
- 2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
- 3. Pray for family matters.

#### Memory Verse

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God." Mark 10:27a

# Praise: Psalm 82 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.



### Saturday - Mark 10:1-12 - Marriage

Jesus moves from the area of Galilee to Judea, and the crowds still gather to listen to Him, and He still takes the time to teach them. The Pharisees also come to Jesus. not because they want to learn from Him, but because they want to trap Him into saying the wrong thing. If they can trick Jesus into saying something against the Bible, they can question everything else He says.

So the Pharisees ask Jesus about divorce and marriage, but Jesus refers them back to what Moses wrote. Moses has tolerated divorce, but Jesus points out that there is more to it than that. When God first set up marriage in the Garden of Eden, the purpose was not divorce. God says in Malachi 2:16 that He hates divorce. The Pharisees have allowed men to divorce their wives for all sorts of foolish reasons, but Jesus is calling them to obey God's purpose for marriage - a purpose that doesn't include divorce.

The disciples can hardly believe how strict Jesus is about this, so they question Him in private. Again, Jesus teaches how much God values marriage and how seriously God takes divorce.

#### Questions

- 1. What did the Pharisees ask Jesus about?
- 2. Why did they ask Jesus this question?
- 3. How does God see divorce?

#### **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

Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God." Mark 10:27a

# Praise: Psalm 83 - 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