

A person wearing a white, textured robe is shown from the chest down, holding a crown of thorns. The crown is tilted, and water is pouring from its base into a shallow, grey stone basin on the ground. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape with a warm, golden light. The text is overlaid on the crown of thorns.

THE GOSPEL OF
MARK [⊕]
servant **KING**

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MARK®
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Welcome Ladies,

We are so very blessed to have you join us this year for our study through the gospel of Mark. Our writers have taken great care to bring you the best study possible. It's our prayer and desire you will be personally edified and challenged as we study this book of action together. Mark is a book that portrays Jesus as a Servant who came not to be served but to serve others. It also presents Jesus on the move, meeting the spiritual and physical needs of all kinds of people.

The overwhelming theme of the book of Mark is **servanthood**. The role of servant is a character trait that distinctly sets us apart from the world. And there is no greater example of a servant than Jesus Christ, who came not to be served but to serve and give His life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45).

As we journey through the book of Mark, our prayer is to become more like Jesus and less like ourselves. We pray that we will truly learn what it looks like to serve as Jesus served. It's been said: *The measure of one's greatness is not measured by the number of servants they have, but the number of people they serve. Whoever desires to be great among you shall be your servant* (Mark 10:43).

Love,
Michelle

THE GOSPEL OF MARK: SERVANT KING

A Study in the Gospel of Mark

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THIS BOOK BELONGS TO:

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MARK - WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY CALENDAR 2023-2024

WEEK	BIBLE STUDY LESSON	DATES: THURSDAYS 7:00 P.M./FRIDAYS 9:30 A.M.
1	INTRODUCTION	THURSDAY, SEPT 28 / FRIDAY, SEPT 29
2	CHAPTER 1:1-28	THURSDAY, OCT 5 / FRIDAY, OCT 6
3	CHAPTER 1:29-45	THURSDAY, OCT 12 / FRIDAY, OCT 13
4	CHAPTER 2	THURSDAY, OCT 19 / FRIDAY, OCT 20
5	CHAPTER 3	THURSDAY, OCT 26 / FRIDAY, OCT 27
6	CHAPTER 4:1-25	THURSDAY, NOV 2 / FRIDAY, NOV 3
7	CHAPTER 4:26-41	THURSDAY, NOV 9 / FRIDAY, NOV 10
8	KOINONIA	THURSDAY, NOV 16 / FRIDAY, NOV 17
	THANKSGIVING, CHRISTMAS BREAK	NOV 23 - JAN 1
	WOMEN'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNERS	DEC 7 - 8
9	CHAPTER 5:1-20	THURSDAY, JAN 4 / FRIDAY, JAN 5
10	CHAPTER 5:21-43	THURSDAY, JAN 11 / FRIDAY, JAN 12
11	CHAPTER 6:1-29	THURSDAY, JAN 18 / FRIDAY, JAN 19
12	CHAPTER 6:30-56	THURSDAY, JAN 25 / FRIDAY, JAN 26
13	CHAPTER 7	THURSDAY, FEB 1 / FRIDAY, FEB 2
14	KOINONIA	THURSDAY, FEB 8 / FRIDAY, FEB 9
15	CHAPTER 8	THURSDAY, FEB 15 / FRIDAY, FEB 16
16	CHAPTER 9:1-29	THURSDAY, FEB 22 / FRIDAY, FEB 23
17	CHAPTER 9:30-50	THURSDAY, FEB 29 / FRIDAY, MAR 1
18	CHAPTER 10:1-31	THURSDAY, MAR 7 / FRIDAY, MAR 8
	SPRING DAYTREAT	SATURDAY, MAR 16
19	CHAPTER 10:32-52	THURSDAY, MAR 21 / FRIDAY, MAR 22

MARK - WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY CALENDAR 2023-2024

	GOOD FRIDAY / EASTER	FRIDAY, MAR 29 - SUNDAY, MAR 31
	SCHOOL SPRING RECESS	APR 1 - 5
20	CHAPTER 11	THURSDAY, APR 11 / FRIDAY, APR 12
21	CHAPTER 12	THURSDAY, APR 18 / FRIDAY, APR 19
22	CHAPTER 13	THURSDAY, APR 25 / FRIDAY, APR 26
23	CHAPTER 14:1-31	THURSDAY, MAY 2 / FRIDAY, MAY 3
24	CHAPTER 14:32-72	THURSDAY, MAY 9 / FRIDAY, MAY 10
25	CHAPTER 15	THURSDAY, MAY 16 / FRIDAY, MAY 17
26	CHAPTER 16 & KOINONIA	THURSDAY, MAY 23 / FRIDAY, MAY 24
	REFRESH LEADERS CONFERENCE	FRIDAY, JUNE 7 / SATURDAY, JUNE 8

PRACTICAL HELPS FOR YOUR BIBLE STUDY YEAR

PERSONAL "BE"-attitudes:

BE DETERMINED Examine your daily schedule then set aside a consistent time and place to do your study.

BE PREPARED Gather the materials you'll need: the Bible (we use NKJV), your workbook, and a pen. Try to get your answers from the Bible before going to a commentary. Sometimes another version (NLT, ESV) can help.

BE INSPIRED Begin each day with prayer, asking the Holy Spirit to be your teacher and to illuminate your mind.

BE COMPLETE Read the suggested Bible passages and finish the homework each day. You will get out of this study what you put into it.

BE PERSISTENT Answer the questions as fully as possible. If you are unable to answer a question, move forward to the next question or ask your leader for further insight.

BE CONSISTENT Don't get discouraged. If you miss a day, you can catch up the next. At the same time, remember there is grace here. Life gets busy sometimes, so do what you can, and come to the group time anyway! You will be blessed!

BE HONEST When answering questions, allow the Lord to search your heart and transform your life.

BE BLESSED Enjoy your daily study time as He speaks to you through His Word.

SMALL GROUP "BE"-attitudes:

BE PRAYERFUL Pray before you begin your time together.

BE BIBLICAL Keep all answers in line with God's Word; avoid personal opinions.

BE CONFIDENTIAL Keep all sharing in your small group confidential.

BE RESPECTFUL Listen without interrupting. Keep comments on track and to the point, so that all can share. Do not use your group as a platform for politics or solicitations, or personal businesses of any kind. *It is our policy that literature, handouts, business cards, tracts, invites to home parties, etc., are not allowed.*

BE DISCREET In some cases, you do not need to share more than is absolutely necessary. Some details about personal issues do not need to be made known.

BE KIND Reply to the comments of others lovingly and courteously.

BE MINDFUL Remember your group members in prayer throughout the week.

THE GOSPEL OF **MARK**® *servant* KING

INTRODUCTION TO MARK

The book of Mark is a book that reveals Jesus as SERVANT KING. It presents our Lord on the move meeting the physical and spiritual needs of all kinds of people. Mark depicts Jesus as God's suffering Servant, who came not to be served but to serve—even to the extent of giving His life for us on the cross. Mark's gospel portrays Jesus as constantly on the move. The forward motion in Mark's writing keeps the reader's mind continually looking ahead to the cross and the resurrection. Thirty-nine times Mark uses the word *immediately*, giving a sense that Jesus's time on earth was short and that there was much to accomplish in His few years of ministry.

AUTHOR AND DATE

The apostle Peter passed reports of the words and deeds of Jesus to his attendant, John Mark, who wrote this gospel for the wider church as the record of Peter's apostolic testimony. The book was likely written from Rome during the mid- to late- AD 50s. Mark's audience, largely unfamiliar with Jewish customs, needed to become familiar with the customs in order to understand the coming of Jesus as the culmination of God's work with Israel and the entire world, so Mark explains to them.

PURPOSE AND THEME

The ultimate purpose and theme of Mark's Gospel is to present Jesus as a servant. Where Matthew wrote to a Jewish audience and painted Jesus as the long awaited Messiah, Mark wrote to a Roman audience who had little interest in a Jewish Messiah but great interest in the story of a servant named Jesus. There is no genealogy in Mark's gospel because a servant's lineage is of little consequence. Instead, Mark focuses on the character of the man named Jesus. Mark affirms that Jesus most certainly is the Messiah (Mark 8:29), God's Son (Mark 1:10-11), the one and only God-man, fully human and fully divine, performing miracles only God could perform. Mark paints a portrait of the Christ as a suffering servant (Mark 8:31), who came to win the hearts and ransom the lives of all through His loving acts of service as He ultimately gave His life for the ransom of the world (Mark 10:45).

THE SETTING OF MARK

The events in the book of Mark take place almost entirely within Palestine, from Caesarea Philippi in the north to Beersheba in the south (see map). During this time, Palestine was ruled by the Roman Empire. The book opens with Jesus's baptism by John during the rule of Pontius Pilate and the tetrarchs Antipas and Philip. It closes with Jesus's death and resurrection about three years later.



