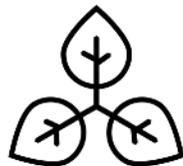


# **The Book of Mark**

**Who Do People Say That I Am?**

**Summer 2021 Sermon Series  
Companion Guide, Volume 2**



**HOPE GROVE  
CHURCH**



Welcome to Volume 2 of the Summer Series Companion Guide. Whether you are just joining in or have worked through all of Volume 1, we're happy that you're taking time to look more at God's Word in a meaningful way.

As with Volume 1, this companion guide will:

- Give space for sermon notes each week\*
- Read through the entire book of Mark
- Study other passages from the Bible that help us better understand what Mark was writing and why he was writing it
- Encounter other resources that better explain the context and message of the Gospel of Mark

Each week, there will be 5 days worth of content to explore at your own pace - probably an average of 10-15 minutes per day. The content will inevitably overlap with the Sunday sermons, but that's intentional - more study and exposure will hopefully lead to a richer understanding of scripture and deeper personal response. It's our hope (and expectation) that this regular time spent encountering the Word of God will be not only an awesome individual experience, but will be a blessing for our church as well.

We are excited to invite you in to an extended look at the book of Mark this summer!

-HGC Staff

\* Some sermons in this volume will be out of order because of Alex's upcoming paternity leave

**June 13 - Sunday Sermon - Week 6**

**Title:**

**Passage:**

**Sermon Notes:**

How am I being invited to respond to this message in the days and weeks ahead?

## June 14 - Recap & Review

We are entering Week 6 of our Summer Series, and there's already been an overwhelming amount of content. Because there's so much to dig in to with culture, context, literary styles, and well-known stories, we are intentionally taking a day every so often to just reflect back and review some of the key points. And please remember - it's fine to change the pace of study if that's helpful.

Look back over any notes you've taken if you followed along with Volume 1. Also consider rewatching The Bible Project videos from May 10 by [clicking here](#) or navigating to this address:

<https://bibleproject.com/learn/mark/>

- What progressions have you seen in the text so far?
- Are there any larger themes that seem to be jumping out?
- How have you noticed Mark grouping themes? To what end?

## **June 15 - Read Mark 6:1-13**

Before reading, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text. This section in particular may lead to a lot of questions, so feel free to take note of things you'd like to study further or discuss with others.

Why would Mark group these two stories together? What's the connection between these two accounts?



## **June 17 - Manuscript**

Read the text and make note of any observations you have. Pay special attention to repetition, key words, people, comparisons, connecting words/phrases, and questions that come up when reading. After studying the text extensively, move towards interpretation and response.

### **Mark 6:7-13**

And he called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He charged them to take nothing for their journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in their belts— but to wear sandals and not put on two tunics. And he said to them, “Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you depart from there. And if any place will not receive you and they will not listen to you, when you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them.” So they went out and proclaimed that people should repent. And they cast out many demons and anointed with oil many who were sick and healed them.

Observe - What does the passage say?

Interpret - What does the passage mean?

How might this mission have started to clarify Jesus' ministry for the disciples? What does this say to Mark's audience about Jesus' ministry?

Respond - What does the passage mean for me?

**June 18 - Read Mark 6:14-29**

Before reading, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text.

This story seems like an interesting aside from the overall narrative. Why do you think Mark went in to such detail?

**June 20 - Sunday Sermon - Week 7**

**Title:**

**Passage:**

Use this page for any notes from this week's sermon.

How am I being invited to respond to this message in the days and weeks ahead?

## **June 21 - Read Mark 6:30-56**

Before reading, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text.

These two stories are very well known, but it can be easy to disconnect them. How do they work together to better tell Mark's complete story of Jesus' ministry?

## **June 22 - Manuscript**

Read the text and make note of any observations you have. Pay special attention to repetition, key words, people, comparisons, connecting words/phrases, and questions that come up when reading. After studying the text extensively, move towards interpretation and response.

### **Matthew 14:22-33**

Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go before him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up on the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but the boat by this time was a long way from the land, beaten by the waves, for the wind was against them. And in the fourth watch of the night he came to them, walking on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, and said, "It is a ghost!" and they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them, saying, "Take heart; it is I. Do not be afraid." And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me."

Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Observe - What does the passage say?

Interpret - What does the passage mean?

What differences do you notice between this story from Matthew and the account in Mark? Why are they significant?

Respond - What does the passage mean for me?

## **June 23 - Read Mark 7:1-23**

Before reading, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text.

How does this passage fit with Mark's reason for writing (Mark 1:1)? How do Jesus' teachings in this passage develop a clearer understanding of the Kingdom of God?

## June 24 - Isaiah 29

In the reading from Mark 7 yesterday, Jesus quoted Isaiah 29:13 when responding to the Pharisees concerns about cleanliness. Since Old Testament quotes are often intended to call to mind not just the section quoted, but also the surrounding passage, we will look at Isaiah 29 today.

Read Isaiah 29:13-24

Most of the book of Isaiah is prophetic writings directed to Israel and surrounding nations. This particular chapter focuses on the residents of Jerusalem and the coming destruction by the Babylonians.

1. What observations have you made about these verses?
2. What questions come up when reading these verses?
3. After studying the larger passage, reflect on yesterday's reading from Mark 7. How would the Pharisees have understood what Jesus was saying? How would the disciples have understood what Jesus was saying?

**June 25 - Read Mark 7:24-37**

Before reading, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text.

These two stories involve people of non-Jewish backgrounds. Why is that significant? How does that relate to the first half of Chapter 7?

**June 27 - Sunday Sermon, Week 8**

**Title:**

**Passage:**

**Sermon Notes:**

How am I being invited to respond to this message in the days and weeks ahead?

## **June 28 - Read Mark 8:1-13**

Before reading, remember to take all of this at your own pace. If it's better to dwell on a particular topic or passage for several days, do that. For today, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text.

How is this story of feeding a large crowd different than the one in Chapter 6? Why is the location important? How do those differences emphasize the bigger themes of Mark?

## **June 29 - Manuscript**

Read the text and make note of any observations you have. Pay special attention to repetition, key words, people, comparisons, connecting words/phrases, and questions that come up when reading. After studying the text extensively, move towards interpretation and response.

### **John 7:40-52**

When they heard these words, some of the people said, "This really is the Prophet." Others said, "This is the Christ." But some said, "Is the Christ to come from Galilee? Has not the Scripture said that the Christ comes from the offspring of David, and comes from Bethlehem, the village where David was?" So there was a division among the people over him. Some of them wanted to arrest him, but no one laid hands on him. The officers then came to the chief priests and Pharisees, who said to them, "Why did you not bring him?" The officers answered, "No one ever spoke like this man!" The Pharisees answered them, "Have you also been deceived? Have any of the authorities or the Pharisees believed in him? But this crowd that does not know the law is accursed." Nicodemus, who had gone to him before, and who was one of them, said to them, "Does our law judge a man without first giving him a hearing and learning what he does?" They replied, "Are you from Galilee too? Search and see that no prophet arises from Galilee."

Observe - What does the passage say?

Interpret - What does the passage mean?

How is Jesus' message being received by different groups?

Respond - What does the passage mean for me?

**June 30 - Read Mark 8:14-26**

Before reading, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text.

How do these two stories help us understand the disconnect between Jesus and others during his ministry?

## July 1 - Pause & Reflect

As we approach the middle of the Gospel of Mark, it's really important to reflect back on the story Mark is telling because a big shift in tone is coming. It's becoming more apparent that different groups have significantly different understandings of who Jesus is, and the rest of the Gospel unpacks Jesus' challenges to their understandings and their responses.

If it's helpful, look back over your notes from previous days and watch the Bible Project Mark overview videos by [clicking here](#) or navigating to this address:

<https://bibleproject.com/learn/mark/>

In your study of Mark so far, how have you seen Jesus giving proof to his statement in chapter 1 that 'the kingdom of God is near'? What impact is that having on those around him?

How are you being called to respond thus far to all that Mark is describing?

## **July 2 - Read Mark 8:27-9:1**

Before reading, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text.

What is significant about Peter's statements (v. 30 & 32) in light of the rest of Mark to this point?

**July 4 - Sunday Sermon, Week 9**

**Title:**

**Passage:**

**Sermon Notes:**

How am I being invited to respond to this message in the days and weeks ahead?

## **July 5 - Son of Man**

As we move in to the second half of the Gospel of Mark, Jesus starts focusing more on his coming death and resurrection, often referring to himself as the Son of Man.

To get a better understanding of the implications of that term, watch the 'Son of Man' video from the Bible Project by [clicking here](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z6cWEcqxhII&t) or navigating to this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z6cWEcqxhII&t>

How have you noticed Jesus using this term so far in Mark? How does it seem others are responding?

## **July 6 - Mark 9:2-13**

Before reading, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text.

How does the Transfiguration relate to Mark 8:27-9:1? How does it relate to the rest of Mark to this point?

## **July 7 - Word Study**

Mark uses the word 'transfigured' in 9:2, but it's a word that lacks context and may not be very well understood. Today we are going to take a look at two other times that word is used in the Bible to help us get a better sense of how Mark's original audience may have understood it.

Take a few minutes to read through these two passages, making note of any observations or questions you may have.

### **Romans 12:1-2**

I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be **transformed** by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.

### **2 Corinthians 3:12-18**

Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being **transformed** into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

**Note:** The words 'transfigured' and 'transformed' both come from the Greek 'metamorphoo,' which is also the root of the word metamorphosis.

How do these two passages approach the idea of transformation?

How does studying these 2 passages help us better understand the use and understanding of the word in the first century?

With these passages in mind, what would the Transfiguration story mean to someone in Mark's original audience? How would it influence their understanding of the nature of Jesus and his ministry? How is that significant in light of the purpose of Mark's Gospel?

**July 8 - Mark 9:14-32**

Before reading, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text.

In what ways does this story relate to the Transfiguration account in 9:2-13?

## **July 9 - Matthew 17:1-23**

We are continuing to focus on this very important story, but today we'll look at Matthew's account of the previous two readings from Mark.

Read Matthew 17:1-23 and respond to the following:

1. What observations have you made about these verses? What differences do you notice between the stories from Mark and Matthew?
2. What questions come up when reading these verses?
3. What role does the Transfiguration play in Jesus' ministry? Why is it such an important event?
4. How is this healing different than others to this point? Why do you think Jesus responded the way he did?

**July 11 - Sunday Sermon, Week 10**

**Title:**

**Passage:**

**Sermon Notes:**

How am I being invited to respond to this message in the days and weeks ahead?

## **July 12 - Mark 9:33-50**

Before reading, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text.

How are the disciples handling this new information from Jesus? What do you think is holding them back from having a clearer understanding of what Jesus told them earlier in chapter 9? And how would they have received Jesus' response?

## **July 13 - Manuscript**

Read the text and make note of any observations you have. Pay special attention to repetition, key words, people, comparisons, connecting words/phrases, and questions that come up when reading. After studying the text extensively, move towards interpretation and response.

### **Luke 9:46-50**

An argument arose among them as to which of them was the greatest. But Jesus, knowing the reasoning of their hearts, took a child and put him by his side and said to them, "Whoever receives this child in my name receives me, and whoever receives me receives him who sent me. For he who is least among you all is the one who is great." John answered, "Master, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he does not follow with us." But Jesus said to him, "Do not stop him, for the one who is not against you is for you."

Observe - What does the passage say?

Interpret - What does the passage mean?

How are the disciples responding to all that Jesus has said in recent passages?

Respond - What does the passage mean for me?

## **July 14 - Mark 10:1-31**

Before reading, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text.

Do you resonate with the disciples' responses to the different ways Jesus is teaching them in this passage? What stands out? What is challenging to you?

## July 15 - The Law

Up to this point in Mark, Jesus has had a few interactions with the Pharisees and teachers of the Law, primarily with them challenging his actions with regard to the Law. As you'll recall, Jesus' responses have typically angered the Pharisees because he's teaching a very different understanding of the Law.

To give a bit more insight into how Jesus' ministry truly fits in to the context of the Old Testament Law, please watch this Bible Project video on The Law by [clicking here](https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/law/) or navigating to this link:

<https://bibleproject.com/explore/video/law/>

What surprised you about this video? Is any of this information new to you?

Reflect back on what you've read in Mark so far, especially yesterday's reading. How is Jesus redefining the Law in those stories?

## **July 16 - Mark 10:32-52**

Before reading, take a moment to reflect back on what's been read and discussed so far - what will be helpful for you to remember as you read today?

After reading, feel free to use this space for any notes, observations, questions, doodles, or anything else that might be helpful for you as we continue through the text.

What similarities and differences do you notice between this passage and other sections of Mark?

How would you explain the first part of v. 32: 'And they were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them. And they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid.'?

The concluding volume is on its way....