

WHO IS JESUS?

Seeing Jesus

STUDIES IN THE GOSPEL OF

MARK



TOONGABBIE
ANGLICAN
CHURCH



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FINDING LIFE IN THE MESSIAH



Getting into the Word

1. What is Mark doing with the theme of seeing (vv11, v18, v23-25)? Why does Jesus have two goes of healing the blind man?
2. What does Peter mean when he calls Jesus' the Messiah? What does it mean in the OT and how do you think he understand what it meant? (cf Isaiah 52:13-Isaiah 53:12, Daniel 9:25)
3. Why does Jesus take such offence to Peter's seemingly caring objection? (v30)
4. This is the first time Jesus speaks 'plainly' to the disciples about dying and rising. Why has he waited until now to speak of this?



Responding to Jesus

1. How would you describe Jesus from this passage?
 - Is he worth giving our life to?

2. How does Jesus' words and actions reveal the "good news" of the kingdom? (v34-38)

- What about this do we gain now and long for?
- What are you unsure about?

3. How might we respond to him?

- What does it mean to deny ourselves, take up our cross and follow him? What does this look like in your life? Consider this not as self-hating but self-giving to Jesus or even self-receiving from Him.



Proclaiming Jesus to the World

1. We live in a world that says "be true to yourself" and "find your true self". How does our life look different?

2. How can we own parts of our life story that gives credence to Jesus' life giving, yet paradoxical call to lose one's life and find life outside ourselves? What circumstances would you find it natural to share such a life story moment with others?

This is what Christians often refer to as testimonies, but we ought to think of everyday testimonies rather than only "I became a Christian when..."

KINGDOM POWER



Getting into the Word

1. As Jesus is transfigured, the disciples finally see his unveiled glory for the first time. Compare this event where Jesus' clothes became "dazzling white" with the following two passages: Daniel 7:9 & Revelation 1:13-14. Particularly consider what is said about the identity of the individual in each of the passages.
2. Of all the messages God could have spoken to Jesus, why do you think he chose what he did in verse 7?
3. Compare the disciples with the boy's father in terms of humility (verse 24, 33-34, 38). Why are we so often just like the disciples in this way?
4. Why should the disciples deny themselves? v34-38. What's the danger if we resist self-denial and seek our own gain instead? How has Jesus set us an incredible example of self-denial?



Responding to Jesus

1. How would you describe Jesus from this passage?
2. How do Jesus' words and actions reveal the "good news" of the kingdom?
 - What about this do we long for?
 - What are you unsure about?
3. How might we respond to him?
 - What does Jesus say about "discipleship"?
 - How do others respond to him in the passage?



Proclaiming Jesus to the World

1. What a privilege Peter, James and John had to see the glory of Jesus in his transfiguration! Where would you start in showing someone that Jesus is glorious? Brainstorm the unique ways you could communicate this truth and the likely objections people might have.

MARK 10

KINGDOM LIVING

For all kinds of reasons Jesus' teaching on divorce (v.1-11) is challenging and the circumstances that this teaching finds us in can be very complex and difficult. Mike has written some pastoral reflections on Jesus' teaching here from Mark 10. You can read that here: bit.ly/mark-10-divorce. If you'd like to discuss this further please reach out to someone on the pastoral team or email mike@tac.church.



Getting into the Word

1. No doubt we would answer the question "How does one inherit eternal life" with "Repent and believe". Why does Jesus answer the way he does in v17?
2. Who can be saved? Reconcile Jesus' comments in v27 and v15.
3. What does it mean to 'receive 100 times more' what we give up for Jesus (v30)? Given all Jesus has said on wealth here it's difficult to jump to a 'prosperity gospel' interpretation. See also Mark 3:35, Col 1:24, 1 Tim 6:5b.



Responding to Jesus

1. How would you describe Jesus from this passage?
 - How does Jesus' statement about coming to serve demonstrate the character of God and kingdom life (v42-45)?
2. How do Jesus' words and actions reveal the "good news" of the kingdom?
 - What about this do we long for?
 - What are you unsure about?
3. How might we respond to him?
 - So much of this passage seems upside down and even difficult. What is glorious about this? What is a real struggle?



Proclaiming Jesus to the World

1. Think particularly about the 3-4 people you've put down on your prayer cards. How might you serve them as Jesus serves you? What are some of the joys and challenges you might anticipate?

PALM SUNDAY



Getting into the Word

1. Hosanna! It's the 'transliteration' of the Hebrew word translated "Save us we pray" (e.g. Psalm 118:25). Compare Jesus' triumphal entry (v1-11) with Isaiah 9:1-7.

2. Jesus first act in Jerusalem is judgement. Mark bookends the temple scene with Jesus cursing the fig tree. Why? (see Jeremiah 8:13). How does Jesus' anger help us see the fullness of God in Christ?

3. How might we understand Jesus' statement about the power of prayer in verse 24? There is both a confidence and submission in Christian prayer (see Jesus model this in 14:36). How do hold these things in tension?



Responding to Jesus

1. How would you describe Jesus from this passage?
 - We see Jesus as both humble and righteously angry. How does this challenge your view of Jesus?

2. How do Jesus' words and actions reveal the "good news" of the kingdom?

- What about this do we long for?
- What are you unsure about?

3. How might we respond to him?

- What does Jesus say about "discipleship"?
- How do others respond to him in the passage?



Proclaiming Jesus to the World

1. The coming of Jesus into Jerusalem ignites people's imagination of the Messiah's kingdom. Jesus will both fulfil the prophecies and subvert false views, revealing a radically new vision for God's kingdom. How do we help people imagine God's kingdom and want it to be true?

**PRAYER POINTS OR
NOTES**

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