

# **The Book of Mark**

The Story of Jesus

Simplified English

Shari Plueddemann

Published by Q Place

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*The Book of Mark: The Story of Jesus – Simplified English*

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Cover photo: Kletr/Shutterstock

First Q Place Printing 2016

Printed in the United States of America

ISBN 978-1-880266-63-2

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# 1

## Mark 1:1-28

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### Jesus Begins His Work

**W**ho is Jesus? Is he a great teacher? Is he a prophet? Is he the Son of God? This is the most important question anyone can ask. Mark wrote this book to answer this important question.

**Read Mark 1:1-8**

#### **John the Baptist Makes the Way Ready for the Coming of Jesus**

<sup>1</sup> The Good News of Jesus Christ, the Son of God, <sup>2</sup> begins with the words of the early preachers: “Listen! I will send My helper to carry the news ahead of you. He will make the way ready. <sup>3</sup> His voice calls out in the desert, “Make the way ready for the Lord. Make the road straight for Him!” (Isaiah 40:3)

<sup>4</sup> John the Baptist preached in the desert. He preached that people should be baptized because they were sorry for their sins and had turned from them. And they would be forgiven. <sup>5</sup> People from over all the country of Judea and from Jerusalem came to him. They told of their sins and were baptized by John in the Jordan River.

<sup>6</sup> John wore clothes made of hair from camels. He had a leather belt around him. His food was locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> He preached, saying, “One is coming after me Who is greater than I. I am not good enough to get down and help Him take off His shoes. <sup>8</sup> I have baptized you with water. But He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit.”



1. What is the best news you have ever heard?

Who gave you the news?



2. John the Baptist brings news that Jewish people waited hundreds of years to hear. What will John the Baptist do (verses 2-3)?

3. What does John the Baptist tell the people to do?

What do the people do when they hear John preach (verse 5)?

4. What news does John give the people about Christ, who will come soon (verses 7-8)?



5. How can people hear about the Good News of Jesus today?

## **Read Mark 1:9-15**

### **The Baptism of Jesus**

<sup>9</sup> Jesus came to the Jordan River from the town of Nazareth in the country of Galilee. He was baptized by John. <sup>10</sup> As soon as Jesus came up out of the water, He saw heaven open up. The Holy Spirit came down on Him like a dove. <sup>11</sup> A voice came from heaven and said, “You are My much-loved Son. I am very happy with You.”

### **Jesus Was Tempted**

<sup>12</sup> At once the Holy Spirit sent Jesus to a desert. <sup>13</sup> He was tempted by Satan for forty days there. He was with wild animals but angels took care of Him.

### **Jesus Preaches in Galilee**

<sup>14</sup> After John the Baptist was put in prison, Jesus came to the country of Galilee. He preached the Good News of God. <sup>15</sup> He said, “The time has come. The holy nation of God is near. Be sorry for your sins, turn from them, and believe the Good News.”



6. Find Nazareth, Jerusalem, and the Jordan River on the map on page 177. What happens when Jesus comes from Nazareth to the Jordan River (verse 9)?

7. What unusual things happen at Jesus' baptism (verses 10-11)?

8. What is temptation?

9. Why does Jesus go into the desert (verse 12)?

Who tempts Jesus when he is in the desert (verses 12-13)?

Who takes care of Jesus?

10. Find Galilee on the map. What good news does Jesus preach in Galilee (verses 14-15)?





11. What do you need to do if you obey Jesus' teaching?

### **Read Mark 1:16-20**

#### **Jesus Calls Simon and Andrew**

<sup>16</sup> Jesus was walking by the Sea of Galilee. He saw Simon and his brother Andrew putting a net into the sea. They were fishermen. <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to them, "Follow Me. I will make you fish for men!" <sup>18</sup> At once they left their nets and followed Him.

#### **Jesus Calls James and John**

<sup>19</sup> Jesus went on a little farther. He saw James and his brother John who were sons of Zebedee. They were in a boat mending their nets. <sup>20</sup> Jesus called them and they left their father Zebedee. He was in the boat with men who were working for him.



12. What kind of followers do leaders choose today?



13. What kind of people does Jesus ask to follow him (verses 16, 19-20)?

Why do you think Jesus asks these people to follow him instead of other well-known religious leaders?

14. What does Jesus say to these men (verse 17)?

How do they answer Jesus (verses 18, 20)?



15. How does Jesus ask people to follow him today?

What do other people think when someone decides to follow Jesus?

## **Read Mark 1:21-28**

### **Jesus Heals a Man with a Demon**

<sup>21</sup> Jesus and His followers went to the city of Capernaum on the Day of Rest. They went to the Jewish place of worship where Jesus taught the people. <sup>22</sup> The people were surprised and wondered about His teaching. He taught them as One Who had the right and the power to teach and not as the teachers of the Law.

<sup>23</sup> There was a man in the Jewish place of worship who had a demon. The demon cried out, <sup>24</sup> “What do You want of us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have You come to destroy us? I know Who You are. You are the Holy One of God.”

<sup>25</sup> Jesus spoke sharp words to the demon and said, “Do not talk!

Come out of the man!”<sup>26</sup> The demon threw the man down and gave a loud cry. Then he came out of him.<sup>27</sup> The people were all surprised and wondered. They asked each other, “What is this? Is this a new teaching? He speaks with power even to the demons and they obey Him!”<sup>28</sup> At once the news about Jesus went through all the country around Galilee.



16. Who is someone you know that has a lot of power?



17. Where is Jesus teaching (verse 21)?

18. How is Jesus’ teaching different from others (verse 22)?

19. Describe what happens while Jesus is teaching (verses 23-27).

Who does the demon say Jesus is (verse 24)?

Who are the demons afraid of?

20. Where does Jesus' power come from (verse 11)?



21. If you know that Jesus has complete power, how can that make a difference in your life?

## **SUMMARY**

1. What do you learn about Jesus in this study?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
2. How does Mark begin to show that Jesus is the Son of God?

## **PRAYER**

*Dear Jesus, thank you for teaching me more about who you are. I see in you great power that helps people. Amen.*