



MARK

— Follow the Saviour —

Part 2

*“The beginning of the good news about
Jesus the Messiah, the Son of God”*

(Mark 1:1)

Follow the Saviour

After spending Lent and Easter in other parts of the Bible, we're back following the trail of the Saviour in Mark. Chapters 4-6 of Mark pack a lot of action and teaching in as Jesus begins his public ministry, and we can see his influence grow.

While many people begin to follow Jesus, opposition to his ministry also grows. This is the nature of the gospel: for many it's *good news*, but others are be threatened by it. Nevertheless, Jesus never backs down from his mission and never bows to public pressure to stay silent.

He's also quite clear about who he is and why he came. Twice in these chapters Jesus shows his authority over creation by calming storms, healing many people, and even bringing a dead girl back to life. While Mark doesn't tell us outright who he thinks Jesus is, he is showing us that Jesus has God's authority, God's power, and his mission is perfectly aligned with God.

Mark wants to bring us into the light and leave us in no doubt about the power, authority, and identity of Jesus. Our prayer is that through this series you might get to know him more and that Jesus might change your life.

Rev'd David Browne
Dalby Anglican



Warming up

Have you ever had the experience of hearing someone say something but not taking in what they said?

Read: Mark 4:1-20

1. Remembering our study of the beginning of Mark, where is this teaching taking place? What other things happened by the lake? (See Mark 1:16 & 3:7)
2. Why does Jesus use parables in his teaching? What is their purpose?
3. What are the four different soil types?
4. What are the four different results from the seed being sown?
5. What do the results tell us about the seed itself? Is the seed good or is it problematic?
6. Why would a farmer bother with scattering seeds on the first three soils? What does this tell us about the farmer? Is he reckless? Extravagant? Generous? Something else?
7. Jesus quotes Isaiah 6:9-10. Why might he have chosen this quote to explain his point?
8. What do the results of the seed represent? What do they say about the Kingdom?
9. Are we ever at risk of responding to the word in the first three ways? What could cause you to have a hard or distracted heart?
10. How can we let our ears hear the Word? Is this different to just concentrating really hard? Why/How?

Rubber hits the road

What is the condition of the soil in your heart right now? How can you seek to ensure that your heart is good soil ready for growth?

Family Time

Watch: *'Parable of the sower Animation'* (Gospel Show)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Tb7bvF5Ucrk>

Talk: Who is the sower? What is the seed? What are we in this story? How can we become better soil?

Do: **'Egg shell plants'**

You will need: vegetable/flower seeds, soil, egg shells.

Find some easy growing seeds (sunflowers, tomatoes, peas, etc.). Put some earth in an eggshell and plant the seeds in the earth. Make sure you put the seeds in a place where you can see them and where they can get good sunlight. Water and care for the seeds and try to help them grow. As you watch the seeds grow, pray that God would grow the gospel in your heart.

Pray: Loving Lord Jesus, thank you that you are a good God whose nature is always to have mercy. Help me to be good soil, plant the gospel afresh in my heart, and make it bear fruit in my life. May I produce a crop for your glory and serve you until I get to meet you face to face. AMEN.



Warming up

Have you ever gone to sleep and been surprised by something when you woke up?

Read: Mark 4:21-25

1. What is the answer to Jesus' question in v.21?
2. Considering the parable in Mark 4:1-21, what does Jesus mean when he speaks of 'things hidden and concealed being disclosed and brought out into the open'?
3. What does it mean to 'consider carefully what you hear' as mentioned in v.24? Practically, how could you do this in your reading and hearing of Scripture?
4. What is the encouragement and the warning in vv.24-25? What is the danger of not hearing and not responding to the word?

Read: Mark 4:26-29

5. What does this tell us about how the kingdom grows? What is our role?
6. What does the grain's growth in v.28 tell us about Kingdom growth?
7. What does the harvest in v.29 mean, and when will that come?

Read: Mark 4:30-34

8. What does the mustard seed and mustard bush tell us about God's Kingdom?
9. How are vv.30-32 an encouragement to both the disciples and us?
10. What does v.34 tell us about the importance of alone time with Jesus?

Rubber hits the road

Is there something that you are trying to deal with in your own strength? Take some time to ponder the truths of God's Kingdom from these readings and seek his strength, wisdom, and sovereignty.

Family Time

Watch: *'The Parable of the Mustard Seed'* (Parish of Mouslecoomb)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YoARY3J2zco>

Talk: What types of seeds do you know about? What is the smallest seed you know about? How can a small seed grow into a big tree? Jesus compares the heaven to a mustard seed (a small seed that grows into a big bush) – why does he do this?

Do: 'Drawing'

You will need: drawing paper, colouring pencils, Kids Bible.

In Mark 4:21-42 Jesus compares the kingdom of God with a light, a measurement, a plant, and a mustard seed. Read the passage from a Kids Bible and draw one of the parables on a piece of paper. Share your drawings with others and take turns telling each other about the parable you drew.

Pray: Lord God of all creation, thank you that you invite us into your house. Help us to accept this invitation and never take it for granted. Thank you that your kingdom is like a mustard seed, growing out and providing for all in need. Grow your Holy Spirit in our hearts so we can shine your light to the world this week. AMEN.



Warming up

When you are afraid, what do you do?

Read: Mark 4:35-41

1. Earlier in Mark's Gospel the disciples have seen Jesus heal many people and drive out impure spirits, and they have just heard what the kingdom of God is like. So why are the disciples so afraid in this passage?
2. What do the disciples presume is going to happen?
3. In v.38, what does the disciples' question to Jesus show us?
4. In v.40 Jesus asked the disciples some questions. What do his questions indicate, and how do the disciples respond?
5. What does this passage teach us about how our faith should affect our fears?

Read: Mark 5:1-20

6. How does this passage compare or contrast with the storm passage in Mark 4:35-41?
7. Why do you think the man with a demon ran to Jesus? What did he see in Jesus that maybe others could not?
8. What does Jesus say/do/command?
9. How does the man with a demon respond to Jesus and why?
10. Why do you think people "began to plead with Jesus to leave their region"?
11. What do these two passages reveal about Jesus' identity and character?

Rubber hits the road

What fears or demons are you currently wrestling with in your life? How can Jesus deliver you from your fears?

Family Time

Watch: 'Jesus calms the storm' (Cartoon Bible)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4uP_XBI6Fpg

Talk: Why were the disciples worried? What did Jesus do about their fears? Why was Jesus disappointed that his disciples were so afraid? What might Jesus say to us when we are afraid?

Do: 'Fears'

You will need: writing paper and pencils.

On a piece of paper make two columns. In one column, write down the things you are afraid of in life (e.g., spiders, storms, exams, money troubles). In the other column, write down what Jesus might have to say about those things.

Pray: Dear Lord Jesus, thank you that you are faithful, even when I'm afraid. Help me to remember the times you have rescued me, so that I don't get so frightened in the future. Thank you that my forever home is with you in heaven and that you are with me no matter what. AMEN!



Warming up

Can you remember a time you were so desperate for something (e.g., a job, food, money, healing, etc.), that you were prepared to do anything to get it? What was it like?

Read: Mark 5:21-43

1. Jesus heals two people in this passage. What do they have in common?
2. Why is Jairus so desperate for Jesus to heal his daughter? Why is his job significant?
3. Why is it difficult for Jesus to move quickly to help Jairus' daughter?
4. Why is the woman so desperate for Jesus to heal her? What causes the sick woman to reach out to Jesus?
5. Once she's healed, how does Jesus treat the woman?
6. What can we learn from this woman and the way Jesus treats her?
7. What do the people come and tell Jairus in v.35? How does Jesus respond?
8. Why does Jesus go to Jairus' house, even after his daughter has died?
9. How does Jesus go about healing Jairus' daughter? Why does Jesus kick everyone out of the room?
10. What do vv.42-43 tell us about the little girl's healing?
11. What do these two healings tell us about Jesus?

Rubber hits the road

What hope can these stories give us today? How can they influence how we pray for the people around us?

Family Time

Watch: 'Jesus Healed a Woman and Raised a Girl' (Angela Conrad)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-xfCOxaw20M>

Talk: What did Jesus do for Jairus? What did Jesus do for the sick woman? What did Jesus do for Jairus' daughter? What does this mean for us today?

Do: 'Happy Sad'

You will need: paper plates, coloured markers, Kids' Bible.

On a paper plate or round piece of paper draw a happy face and a sad face. Have someone read Mark 5:21-43 from a Kids' Bible. At the end of each verse, check in and ask 'does this part of the story make you happy or sad?'. Have the group hold up a sad face or a happy face as they share their response. At the end of the story ask, 'does this story make you sad or happy?'. Discuss your answers.

Pray: God of healing, Lord of life: thank you that you are a healer and redeemer. Help me to call to you when I am in need and look to you for all good things. Lord, sometimes when I pray to you, I don't get an answer straight away. Help me not to become discouraged but to trust in you always. AMEN.



Warming up

Where is your hometown? What's it like?

Read: Mark 6:1-13

1. Where does Jesus travel to in this passage? How is he received?
2. Where does Jesus go first? Why does he go there?
3. How do people react to Jesus initially? Why do they reject him?
4. Why was Jesus only able to heal some people in his hometown?
5. In what ways does familiarity breed contempt in our communities today?
6. What does Jesus' rejection in his hometown tell us about his message?
7. How does Jesus respond to his rejection in v.6 and then in vv.7-12?
8. How does Jesus equip his disciples for ministry? How does Jesus equip us?
9. What can Jesus' words to his disciples in vv.8-11 say to the church today?
10. Why is the outcome of the disciples' teaching and prayer ministry in the wider towns so different to the outcomes in Jesus' hometown?
11. What does this passage show us about how we are to share the gospel with the people around us today?

Rubber hits the road

How do people in Australia often respond to preaching and prayer? How can we best respond to rejection?

Family Time

Watch: 'Jesus sends out his disciples' (Rebekah Herschmann)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EPLp1bFoEhs>

Talk: What did Jesus send out his disciples to do? Why did Jesus send his disciples out to do this? What happened to the people when the disciples prayed for them?

Do: 'Planning for mission'

You will need: Brainstorming tools!

Spend some time thinking about the things you might take with you if you were going on a mission trip to pray for people and tell them the good news of Jesus. Spend some time thinking about how you can offer to pray for those around you and tell them the good news of Jesus.

Spend some time researching some of our church mission partners (e.g., CMS or BCA missionaries, Bishop Daniel in Africa, SU Chappies). Check in with your minister, or on your church website, if you're not sure. Spend some time praying for them and their needs.

Pray: Loving Lord Jesus, thank you that you sent your disciples out to pray for people and tell them the good news of heaven. Please give us opportunities to pray for others and tell them about heaven as well. Send us your Spirit to help us plan for mission and to do mission in our community. Lord Jesus, thank you that you are king, and you give us everything we need to share your love with others. AMEN!

Notes

Notes

Daily Prayer

*Just as we eat, sleep and work every day,
prayer has a place in our daily routine.
Find a place in your home – inside or outside –
that you can make your ‘prayer space’.*

*Include all the members of your family – partners, children, animals – in this space.
Feel free to also include music in this time.*

PRAISE

God is love. Since God loves us, we should love one another.

SENTENCE OF SCRIPTURE

Jesus said to them, “do you bring in a lamp to put it under a bowl or a bed? Instead, don’t you put it on its stand? For whatever is hidden is meant to be disclosed, and whatever is concealed is meant to be brought out into the open.”

Mark 4:21-22

BIBLE READING

At the end of the reading:

Hear the Word of the Lord,
Thanks be to God

PRAYERS

Loving God, thank you for this day.
Thank you for your love and care for us.
Thank you for making each of us special.
Help us today to be kind to each other. **Amen.**

God of mercy, we are sorry that we have not always done what you wanted us to do. We have not loved you with all our heart, and we have not cared enough for other people. Forgive us, for Jesus’ sake. **Amen.**

Lord Jesus, at Nazareth you shared in the life of your family. Help us to live together in our family with love and respect for each other. Make our home a place of blessing, peace and joy for everyone, to the glory of God the Father. **Amen.**

A COLLECT

In darkness and in light,
in trouble and in joy,
help us, heavenly Father,
to trust your love,
to serve your purpose,
and to praise your name,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

A PRAYER FOR GOD'S LIGHT

Eternal God, shed your light on us who watch for you,
that our lips may praise you,
our hearts bless you,
and our lives glorify you,
through Jesus Christ our Saviour. **Amen.**

Include your own personal prayers.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name, your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE GRACE

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with us all. **Amen.**

‘Bible in Two Years’ Reading Plan

Deuteronomy – 1 Chronicles (Days 114 -241)

114. Deuteronomy 1	158. Judges 1	202. 2 Samuel 4-5
115. Deuteronomy 2	159. Judges 2	203. 2 Samuel 6
116. Deuteronomy 3	160. Judges 3	204. 2 Samuel 7-8
117. Deuteronomy 4	161. Judges 5	205. 2 Samuel 9-10
118. Deuteronomy 5-6	162. Judges 6	206. 2 Samuel 11-12
119. Deuteronomy 7-8	163. Judges 7	207. 2 Samuel 13
120. Deuteronomy 9	164. Judges 8	208. 2 Samuel 14
121. Deuteronomy 10	165. Judges 9	209. 2 Samuel 15
122. Deuteronomy 11	166. Judges 10-11	210. 2 Samuel 16-17
123. Deuteronomy 12	167. Judges 12	211. 2 Samuel 18
124. Deuteronomy 13-14	168. Judges 13	212. 2 Samuel 19
125. Deuteronomy 15-16	169. Judges 14-15	213. 2 Samuel 20-21
126. Deuteronomy 17-18	170. Judges 16	214. 2 Samuel 22
127. Deuteronomy 19-20	171. Judges 17-18	215. 2 Samuel 23
128. Deuteronomy 21-22	172. Judges 19	216. 2 Samuel 24
129. Deuteronomy 23-34	173. Judges 20	217. 1 Chronicles 1
130. Deuteronomy 25-26	174. Judges 21	218. 1 Chronicles 2
131. Deuteronomy 37	175. Ruth 1-2	219. 1 Chronicles 3
132. Deuteronomy 28:1-35	176. Ruth 3-4	220. 1 Chronicles 4
133. Deuteronomy 28:36-68	177. 1 Samuel 1	221. 1 Chronicles 5
134. Deuteronomy 29-30	178. 1 Samuel 2	222. 1 Chronicles 6
135. Deuteronomy 31	179. 1 Samuel 3-4	223. 1 Chronicles 7
136. Deuteronomy 32:1-27	180. 1 Samuel 4-5	224. 1 Chronicles 8
137. Deuteronomy 32:28-52	181. 1 Samuel 6-7	225. 1 Chronicles 9
138. Deuteronomy 33	182. 1 Samuel 8-9	226. 1 Chronicles 10
139. Deut 34, Joshua 1	183. 1 Samuel 10	227. 1 Chronicles 11
140. Joshua 2-3	184. 1 Samuel 11-12	228. 1 Chronicles 12
141. Joshua 3-4	185. 1 Samuel 13	229. 1 Chronicles 13-14
142. Joshua 5-6	186. 1 Samuel 14	230. 1 Chronicles 15
143. Joshua 7	187. 1 Samuel 15	231. 1 Chronicles 16
144. Joshua 8	188. 1 Samuel 16	232. 1 Chronicles 17
145. Joshua 9	189. 1 Samuel 17	233. 1 Chronicles 18-20
146. Joshua 10	190. 1 Samuel 18	234. 1 Chronicles 21
147. Joshua 11	191. 1 Samuel 19	235. 1 Chronicles 22-23
148. Joshua 12	192. 1 Samuel 20	236. 1 Chronicles 24
149. Joshua 13	193. 1 Samuel 21-22	237. 1 Chronicles 25
150. Joshua 14	194. 1 Samuel 23-24	238. 1 Chronicles 26
151. Joshua 15	195. 1 Samuel 25	239. 1 Chronicles 27
152. Joshua 16-17	196. 1 Samuel 26-27	240. 1 Chronicles 28
153. Joshua 18	197. 1 Samuel 28-29	241. 1 Chronicles 29
154. Joshua 19	198. 1 Samuel 30-31	
155. Joshua 20-21	199. 2 Samuel 1	
156. Joshua 22	200. 2 Samuel 2	
157. Joshua 23-24	201. 2 Samuel 3	

 **Anglican**
Church
Dalby
Online