

Series: Drop Everything: The Gospel of Mark

Series Overview: Mark is the shortest, most urgent of the four gospels. There are no birth narratives, no extended genealogies – just immediate movement from one scene to the next. Jesus is moving – healing, casting out demons, calling disciples, challenging the religious establishment, and marching toward the cross. Mark's favorite word is 'immediately' (euthys), which appears over 40 times. He is not writing a biography. He is building a case: this Jesus is the Son of God, and that changes everything. This series walks students through anchor passages that carry the whole gospel's weight - from the call to follow, to the question of identity, to the cross and the empty tomb. The goal is formation: that students would encounter Jesus in Mark and be changed by what they find.

Every verse of Mark is covered in this guide. For each week, key passages / focus areas are highlighted, but communicators can dive into other passages as appropriate for your campus and students. The table below outlines the series messages and Scripture covered. Also note the possible combinations of messages:

- Combine weeks 3-4 if needed. Use the parable of the sower as the heart-response to week 4's identity content. Generalize Mark 5 miracles (in 2-3 minutes...Jesus has authority over demons, disease, and death).
- Combine weeks 7-8 if needed. Open with Mark 11-13: Jesus enters as King, cleanses the temple, warns of destruction, and calls his followers to stay awake. Then spend the rest of the time on the cross and resurrection.

<i>Week</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Passages covered</i>	<i>Key Scripture</i>
1	Drop Everything: The Kingdom is Here	Mark 1	Mark 1:14-15
2	Jesus Has Authority – Over Everything	Mark 2-3	Mark 2:1-12
3	Parables and Miracles	Mark 4-5	Mark 4:1-20
4	Who Can Stop Him?	Mark 6-8:26	Mark 6:30-44
5	Who Do You Say I Am?	Mark 8:27-Mark 9	Mark 8:27-38
6	The Upside Down Kingdom	Mark 10	Mark 10:32-45
7	The King Enters, The Temple Falls	Mark 11-13	Mark 11:1-11; 13:32-37
8	The Cross and the Empty Tomb: It is Finished	Mark 14-16	Mark 15:33-39; Mark 16:1-8

Goals:

1. Students will be able to articulate who Jesus is from the Gospel of Mark in their own words
 - Students can answer “who is Jesus” with at least 3 specific claims from Mark
2. Students will personally respond to the question of Mark 8:29 – “who do you say that I am?”
 - Students will initiate gospel conversations with peers
3. Students will memorize Mark 1:15 and understand what “repent and believe” means in their own life
 - Students will explain the difference between repentance and behavior change in their own words.

4. Students will see the cross and resurrection as the intentional climax of Mark's Gospel and see it as part of God's holistic plan.
 - Students can identify at least 2 moments earlier in Mark that point toward the cross
5. Students will take one concrete step of obedience in response to Mark's call to follow Jesus
 - Each student will identify and name a specific "drop everything" moment in week 1, and will revisit this each week

Series Memory Verse: Mark 1:15