



GULF SHORES CHURCH OF CHRIST

**SUNDAY MORNING  
BIBLE CLASS SERIES**

TEACHER: RAY REYNOLDS



# The Gospel of Mark

Sunday Morning Bible Class

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## Lesson #1= The Early Ministry of Jesus (1:1-45)

- I. The forerunner of Jesus (1:1-8)
  - \* Who prophesied of John's coming? What does it say?
  - \* What does it mean to prepare the way for Christ?
- II. The baptism of Jesus (1:9-11)
  - \* What kind of a baptism did John offer?
  - \* What kind of a baptism did Jesus offer?
- III. The temptation of Jesus (1:12-13)
  - \* Why did Jesus go into the wilderness? Explain.
  - \* What happened after Jesus was tempted?
- IV. The preaching of Jesus (1:14-15)
  - \* What was the first message of Jesus? Why?
  - \* Where did Jesus begin His ministry? Why?
- V. The followers of Jesus (1:16-20)
  - \* Who were the first disciples to be called by Jesus?
  - \* What was their response? Can we learn from this?
- VI. The miracles of Jesus (1:21-34, 40-45)
  - \* What were the first miracles of Jesus recorded by Mark?
  - \* How did the people respond to these miracles? Why?
- VII. The devotion of Jesus (1:35-39)
  - \* What can we learn from the prayer life of Jesus?
  - \* What compelled Jesus to serve and minister to the people?
  - \* What can we learn from the mission of Jesus?



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## Lesson #2= The Conflicts With Jesus (2:1-3:35)

- I. Conflict about forgiveness (2:1-12)
  - \* What are some of the fascinating details of this story?
  - \* Why was this miracle so controversial? Explain.
- II. Conflict about fellowship (2:13-17)
  - \* What is so significant about Matthew's calling?
  - \* Why was the fellowship with tax collectors condemned?
- III. Conflict about fasting (2:18-22)
  - \* Why did the disciples of John the Baptizer fast?
  - \* What did Jesus say about His disciples and their fasting?
  - \* How did the wineskins argument diffuse the Pharisees?
- IV. Conflict about following (2:23-3:19)
  - \* What can we learn from the story of David?
  - \* Why was the issue of the Sabbath day such a stumbling block?
  - \* Who were the twelve? What was their role?
- V. Conflict about friendship (3:20-21)
  - \* Why were they unable to eat bread in the house?
  - \* Who was so offended by these events? Why?
- VI. Conflict about faithfulness (3:22-30)
  - \* How did the various arguments and parables help Jesus' case?
  - \* Why was the blasphemy of the Holy Spirit eternally condemned?
- VII. Conflict about family (3:31-35)
  - \* Who are the mother and brothers of Jesus?
  - \* Why did Jesus say these things? Can the church learn from it?



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## Lesson #3= The Parables of Jesus (4:1-34)

- I. The parable of the sower (4:1-20)
  - \* Where was Jesus teaching?
  - \* Why did Jesus teach in the midst of the sea on a boat?
  - \* What can we learn from the different soils?
  - \* Why did Jesus say "he who has ears" to hear?
  - \* What was Jesus' explanation for His use of parables?
  - \* Did Jesus plan to change His methods? Explain.
  
- II. The parable of the lamp (4:21-25)
  - \* What do you do with a lamp? Why?
  - \* Who were supposed to learn the most from these stories?
  - \* What does this tell us about Jesus' plan for His disciples?
  - \* Is there significance to the "measurement" teaching? Explain.
  - \* Why does God give us much? What does He expect from us?
  - \* What were the disciples supposed to glean from this teaching?
  
- III. The parable of the seed (4:26-29)
  - \* What does the growing seed illustration reveal to us?
  - \* Why does Jesus give the process for the harvest?
  - \* How does this relate to the maturation of a Christian?
  - \* What can we learn about God's wisdom from this harvest?
  - \* Why do we doubt God's ability or knowledge?
  
- IV. The parable of the mustard seed (4:30-34)
  - \* What is the size of a mustard seed?
  - \* Why is that so significant when discussing the kingdom of God?
  - \* How large does the tree get?
  - \* What benefits are there to the mustard tree in the garden?
  - \* Why is this illustration so popular?





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## Lesson #4= The Miracles of Jesus (4:35-5:34)

- I. Jesus stills the storm (4:35-41)
  - \* Why did Jesus decide to cross the sea?
  - \* What happened while they were on the journey?
  - \* Is there significance to Jesus sleeping in the boat? Explain.
  - \* What happened after Jesus spoke?
  - \* Why was faith the disciples at the heart of Jesus' rebuke?
  
- II. Jesus heals the demoniac (5:1-20)
  - \* What happened when they got out of the boat?
  - \* Why was this man chained?
  - \* What can we learn about this man and his behavior?
  - \* Why did the man worship Jesus?
  - \* What did Jesus do to Legion? Why?
  
- III. Jesus raises Jairus' daughter (5:21-24, 35-43)
  - \* Why did Jesus return to the other side of the sea?
  - \* Who was it that came to Jesus for help? Why?
  - \* How did Jesus react to the man's request?
  - \* Why did the delay with the woman lead to a greater miracle?
  - \* What did Jesus do in the house? How did the people react?
  
- IV. Jesus heals the bleeding woman (5:25-34)
  - \* Why was this woman seeking Jesus?
  - \* Why did she want to touch His garment?
  - \* How was her blood flow described?
  - \* Why did the disciples argue with Jesus?
  - \* What did Jesus call the woman? Why is that important?
  - \* Why was she healed so quickly?
  - \* What does this tell us about Jesus' abilities?



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## Lesson #5= The Followers of Jesus (6:1-8:21)

- I. Jesus finalizes the twelve (6:1-13)
  - \* What do you think the disciples expected in Nazareth?
  - \* Why did Jesus offer the disciples such advice?
- II. Jesus frustrates Herod (6:14-29)
  - \* Why was Herod so frustrated with Jesus & John the Baptizer?
  - \* Why is the death of John so significant?
- III. Jesus feeds 5,000 of His followers (6:30-44)
  - \* Why did Jesus perform this miracle? Explain.
  - \* What details should we note from this miracle?
- IV. Jesus frightens His followers (6:45-56)
  - \* How did the disciples react when Jesus walked on the water?
  - \* Why were they so frightened by this miracle?
- V. Jesus faces the teachers (7:1-23)
  - \* What kind of defilement is worse, inside or outside?
  - \* How does the prophesy of Isaiah apply to this story?
- VI. Jesus finds followers in Tyre & Sidon (7:24-37)
  - \* What do we know about these cities?
  - \* Why is the story of this Gentile woman included by Mark?
- VII. Jesus feeds 4,000 of His followers (8:1-9)
  - \* What differs in this story from the one in chapter six?
- VIII. Jesus forewarns His disciples (8:10-21)
  - \* Why does Jesus offer this charge? What can we learn from it?



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## Lesson #6= The mission of Jesus (8:22-9:50)

- I. Seeing Jesus the Christ (8:22-26)
  - \* How is this story the turning point of the gospel?
  - \* Why did Jesus do a two-fold miracle?
  
- II. Confessing Jesus the Christ (8:27-30)
  - \* What was their response to Jesus' question? Explain.
  - \* Why did He warn them not to reveal these things?
  
- III. Following Jesus the Christ (8:31-9:1)
  - \* Why would it be so difficult for the disciples to follow Jesus?
  - \* What are the requirements for a true disciple of Jesus?
  
- IV. Knowing Jesus the Christ (9:2-13)
  - \* Why did Jesus take the three alone for the transfiguration?
  - \* Who appeared with Jesus? What does this symbolize?
  - \* What did God say to the men? Explain.
  
- V. Believing Jesus the Christ (9:14-32)
  - \* What is the first thing that happens after they return?
  - \* Who are all the characters in this story? What are they doing?
  
- VI. Serving Jesus the Christ (9:33-37)
  - \* Why were they struggling over who was the greatest?
  - \* How does Jesus describe true service?
  
- VII. Helping Jesus the Christ (9:38-50)
  - \* What did Jesus think about sectarianism and favoritism?
  - \* Why is this passage so important for the followers of Jesus?
  - \* How is salt a wonderful example for this concept?



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## Lesson #7= The Teachings of Jesus (10:1-52)

- I. Jesus teaches about divorce (10:1-12)
  - \* Why is this such a hard teaching? Explain.
  - \* What does Jesus say about marriage and divorce?
  
- II. Jesus teaches about little children (10:13-16)
  - \* How does this compare to what He said in the previous chapter?
  - \* Is this a profound concept? What do we learn from it?
  
- III. Jesus teaches about riches (10:17-27)
  - \* Why do people trust in riches and earthly treasures?
  - \* What can we learn from the rich young ruler?
  - \* Why was this such a hard concept for the disciples to grasp?
  
- IV. Jesus teaches about self-denial (10:28-31)
  - \* Why did Peter bring up the fact that they had all made sacrifices?
  - \* What did Jesus say in response to his statement? Why?
  
- V. Jesus teaches about His death (10:32-34)
  - \* Were the disciples ready for this to happen? Explain.
  - \* Why did Jesus teach about this so often in His ministry?
  
- VI. Jesus teaches about ambition (10:35-45)
  - \* Who is the greatest? Who is the least? Explain.
  - \* Which should we desire to be? Why?
  
- VII. Jesus teaches about faith (10:46-52)
  - \* Why did the disciples struggle with a lack of faith?
  - \* Why did strangers have a stronger faith in Jesus?
  - \* What lessons can be gleaned from this story?





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## Lesson #8= The Authority of Jesus (11:1-12:44)

- I. The town is celebrating (11:1-11)
  - \* Why did the people welcome Jesus in this way?
- II. The tree is cursed (11:12-14, 20-26)
  - \* Why did Jesus curse the tree? What happened later in the story?
- III. The temple is cleared (11:15-19)
  - \* Why did Jesus cleanse the temple of the Lord?
- IV. The test is calculated (11:27-33)
  - \* Why were the Jewish leaders still questioning Jesus?
- V. The teaching about the cornerstone (12:1-12)
  - \* Why did Jesus continue to teach in parables in Jerusalem?
- VI. The tribute to Caesar (12:13-17)
  - \* What was Jesus' opinion about local politics and government?
- VII. The trick of the critics (12:18-27)
  - \* How did the critics try to trip up Jesus? What can we learn?
- VIII. The treatment of the commands (12:28-34)
  - \* What is the greatest command? Explain.
- IX. The truth about the Christ (12:35-37)
  - \* Could they explain Jesus' question? What was His teaching?
- X. The testimony of character (12:38-44)
  - \* What can we learn from the widow's two mites?



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## Lesson #9= The Prophecy of Jesus (13:1-37)

- I. The temple will be destroyed (13:1-4)
  - \* Why was this teaching so controversial and misunderstood?
  - \* What kind of a prophecy was this? Did it happen?
  - \* What did Jesus say regarding the signs?
- II. The wars, earthquakes, and famines (13:5-8)
  - \* How can we see the point of Jesus' statement from this teaching?
  - \* Why do people still seek out a sign for the end of time?
  - \* Who would give dates, times, seasons, and timelines?
- III. The persecution of the disciples (13:9-13)
  - \* Why did Jesus prepare the disciples for their persecution?
  - \* Did these things happen? Explain.
  - \* What is promised to those who endure to the end?
- IV. The last sign and the time for flight (13:14-20)
  - \* What is this great tribulation? When would this happen?
  - \* What does this have to do with the fall of Jerusalem?
  - \* Why does Jesus take this opportunity to teach of His death?
- V. The false christs (13:21-23)
  - \* Should we believe people who give signs and times? Explain.
  - \* What was supposed to happen after the events described here?
  - \* Why do people confuse these three different prophecies?
- VI. The coming of the Son of Man (13:24-37)
  - \* What does Jesus say about the hour of His coming?
  - \* Who knows when these things would happen? Explain.
  - \* What should we do in anticipation? Is this seen in the story?



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## Lesson #10= The Persecution of Jesus (14:1-52)

- I. The aggravation of the Jews (14:1-2)
  - \* What were the Jews planning? When were they planning it?
- II. The anointing at Bethany (14:3-9)
  - \* Why was this such a frustrating event to the people?
- III. The agreement with Judas (14:10-11)
  - \* Why did Judas make this decision?
  - \* What do we know from reading the other gospels?
- IV. The assistance for the Passover (14:12-16)
  - \* Who made the preparations for the Passover?
- V. The assurance of a betrayal (14:17-21)
  - \* Why did Jesus prepare His disciples for this event?
- VI. The approval of the Lord's Supper (14:22-26)
  - \* What did Jesus say when they took the Passover?
  - \* Why was this such a special event for the early Christians?
- VII. The anxiety of the disciples (14:27-31)
  - \* Why were the disciples so sorrowful?
- VIII. The agony in Gethsemane (14:32-42)
  - \* What can we learn from this prayer? Explain.
- IX. The arrest of Jesus (14:43-52)
  - \* What are the details of this event? Explain.
  - \* Who is believed to be the young man who fled naked?



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## Lesson #11= The Rejection of Jesus (14:53-15:15)

- I. The trial by the Sanhedrin (14:53-65)
  - \* Who did they take Jesus to first? Why?
  - \* What was the accusation brought before the counsel?
  - \* Why was this an unsuccessful argument?
  - \* What was Jesus' only response according to Mark?
  - \* What did they do to Jesus? How did this humiliate Him?
  
- II. The denial of Peter (14:66-72)
  - \* How many times did Peter betray Jesus?
  - \* What were Peter's arguments against knowing Jesus?
  - \* Which betrayal was more difficult, that of Peter or Judas?
  - \* Why did Peter follow Jesus to the courtyard? Explain.
  - \* How did Peter's actions in the garden affect these events?
  - \* What did Peter do after he heard the rooster crowing?
  
- III. The accusal before Pilate (15:1-5)
  - \* Who decided to bind Jesus and deliver Him to Pilate?
  - \* Why did they do this? Explain.
  - \* What was the response of Jesus to the accusations?
  - \* How did Pilate respond to Jesus' actions?
  
- IV. The refusal of Jesus (15:6-15)
  - \* What was the tradition before Passover with the prisoners?
  - \* Why did Pilate deliver Barabbas to the crowd?
  - \* Why did Pilate have Jesus scourged and beaten?
  - \* What did the soldiers do to Jesus?
  - \* How many crosses would be placed at Calvary?
  - \* Who was supposed to be in that middle cross? Why?
  - \* What was this man's crime? Explain.



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## Lesson #12= The Completed Work of Jesus (15:16-16:20)

- I. The mocking of Jesus (15:16-21)
  - \* Why was the mocking so humiliating?
  - \* What else did they do to Him before reaching Calvary?
  
- II. The crucifixion of Jesus (15:22-41)
  - \* What was the accusation written above His head?
  - \* What Scriptures were fulfilled in this event?
  - \* What were the things Jesus said on the cross?
  
- III. The burial of Jesus (15:42-47)
  - \* Where was Jesus buried? Why did this happen?
  - \* Who took control of the body of Jesus? Why?
  - \* Which women stayed close to the graveside?
  
- IV. The resurrection of Jesus (16:1-8)
  - \* Why did the women return to the grave? Explain.
  - \* What did the angel tell them to do? Why?
  
- V. The appearances of Jesus (16:9-13)
  - \* Who was blessed to see Jesus first after He rose from the dead?
  - \* What was her response? What did she do next?
  
- VI. The great commission of Jesus (16:14-18)
  - \* What did Jesus command His disciples? Explain.
  - \* What encouragement did He give to them?
  
- VII. The ascension of Jesus (16:19-20)
  - \* What happened after Jesus delivered this teaching?
  - \* How did the apostles respond after Jesus ascended?





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## Lesson #13= Review of the Gospel of Mark

- I. Questions regarding the context of the book
  - \* Why did Mark write this book?
  - \* When did he write this book? Where?
  - \* What audience did Mark have in mind when He wrote it?
  - \* Which apostle is credited with assisting in this endeavor?
  - \* How do we know that they worked together?
  
- II. Questions regarding the content of the book
  - \* What stories are the most memorable to you?
  - \* What parables are the most memorable to you?
  - \* What characters are the most memorable to you?
  - \* What teachings are the most memorable to you?
  - \* What verses are the most memorable to you?
  - \* What verses seem the most difficult to interpret?
  
- III. Questions regarding the harmony of the book
  - \* What stories are not repeated in any other gospel?
  - \* What stories are found in Matthew's account?
  - \* What stories are found in Luke's account?
  - \* What stories are found in John's account?
  - \* What stories are found in multiple accounts?
  
- IV. Questions regarding the words and phrases found in the book
  - \* What does the word parable mean to you?
  - \* What does the word disciple mean to you?
  - \* What does the word tradition mean to you?
  - \* What does the word worship mean to you?
  - \* What does the word Sabbath mean to you?
  - \* What does the word Prophet mean to you?