



The essence of other religions is advice; Christianity is essentially news. Other religions say, "This is what you have to do in order to connect to God forever; this is how you have to live in order to earn your way to God." But the Gospel says, "This is what has been done in history. This is how Jesus lived and died to earn the way to God for you." Because Mark is believed to be the oldest of the written accounts of Jesus, it is considered the model and source of the other three. Join us as we come to know Jesus through

January 8th – Your Gospel is Too Small

Mark's Gospel is about the "Kingdom." The kingdom of God has come into the world in weakness and service, not strength and force. Mark 1:1-15 (Mark 1:1-8) Faith 5 verse Mark 1:8

January 15th – The Meaning of the Kingdom

If Jesus is the King, why is the Kingdom only "near?" Why doesn't he say, I am here so the Kingdom has arrived? What is that? Mark 1:16-34 (Mark 1:14-20) Faith 5 verse Mark 1:17

January 22nd – The Meaning of Free Grace

Jesus claimed the authority to heal and forgive. He also sat down to eat with sinners. The teachers of the Law understood both were forbidden actions and yet Jesus needed no other authority than his own person. Mark 1:35-2:17 (Mark 2:1-12) Faith 5 verse Mark 1:35

January 29th – The Community of the King

Beginning in chapter 3 we find Jesus beginning the creation of a new community, a transformed people who will embody the Kingdom. Preaching, Teaching and Healing, Jesus calls together his followers. Mark 3:7-35 (Mark 3:20-35) Faith 5 verse Mark 3:14, 15

February 5th – The Word of the King

This is the first place in Mark's Gospel where Jesus teaches using the method of parable. Unlike the other writers, Mark does not include long passages of Christ's teaching. Parables invite deep meditation and reflection. Mark 4:1-34 (Mark 4:1-20) Faith 5 verse Mark 4:26-29

February 12th – Faith and Power

Two stories are woven together teach us something of Jesus' power. The forces that bow down to Him are completely outside our control. Mark 5:21-43 (Mark 5:21-43) Faith 5 verse Mark 5:34

February 19th – Religion vs. the Gospel

The Law listed a number of physical conditions that blocked individuals from entering into worship. Jesus refused to have his disciples bound by such traditions. Mark 7:1-23 (Mark 7:14-23) Faith 5 verse Mark 7:14, 15

February 22nd - Ash Wednesday – Who is this King?

Here in the middle of Mark's Gospel someone finally gets it and confesses Jesus' real identity. It won't happen again until the very end. Mark 8:1-30 (Mark 8:22-31)