

Bulletin “Ticklers”

Project Mark

I.

Why should I read the Gospel of Mark?

- It's the liturgical thing to do!
- Gain deeper appreciation of the Sunday readings
- Encounter Mark's Jesus, a genuine “action figure”
- Reflect on the humanity and divinity of Jesus
- Develop confidence reading, interpreting, praying and applying a Gospel to life
- Sense of accomplishment: I've read a whole Gospel!

II.

Introduction to Mark

Have you ever been ridiculed or rejected by others – maybe even your friends – for trying to do something good? Jesus would understand your feelings. In the Gospel of Mark Jesus is misunderstood and abandoned by those closest to him. This Gospel was written for early Christians experiencing persecution or death for their faith. The author is reminding them and us to put our total trust in God as Jesus did, despite whatever difficulties we encounter in being a Christian. Come read the Gospel and hear all about it!

III.

Quick Facts About the Gospel of Mark

- Author: a Gentile Christian, possibly a disciple of Peter's
- Date Written: approximately 65 to 70 C.E; this was the first written Gospel
- Audience: Non—Jewish Christians who were experiencing persecution because of their belief in Jesus
- Image of Jesus: healer and miracle worker who accepts suffering as the cost for following God's will.

IV.

Outline of Mark's Gospel

Mark 1:1-15 John the Baptist's announcement of Jesus ministry

Mark 1:16-8:21 Jesus' preaching and miracles in Galilee

Mark 8:22-10:52 Jesus' teaching and healing the way to Jerusalem

Mark chapters 11-13 Jesus' teaching in Jerusalem

Mark chapters 14-16 Jesus' death and Resurrection

V.

Mark: the Big Picture

- Mark answers two fundamental questions: Who is this Jesus called the Christ? What does it mean to be his disciple?
- Mark portrays Jesus as a man of action – human in his feelings and always on the move fulfilling his mission