

Name: _____



St Helen's
Bishopsgate

6pm RML Mark

Leaders' training weekend

Read Mark Mark Mark Learn Mark

How to waste the year

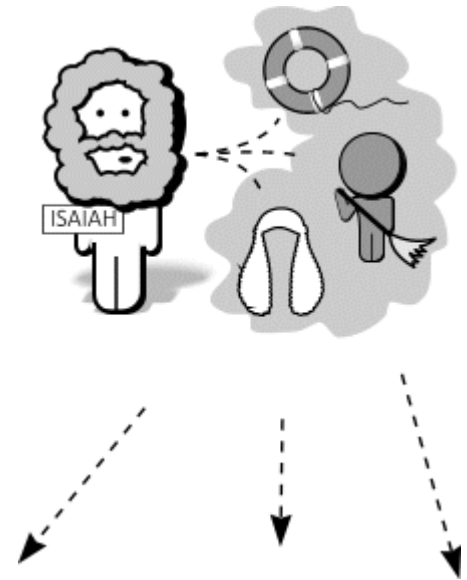
Why Mark is better than Romans and Overview

How to enjoy the tour

Stepping back

The build up...

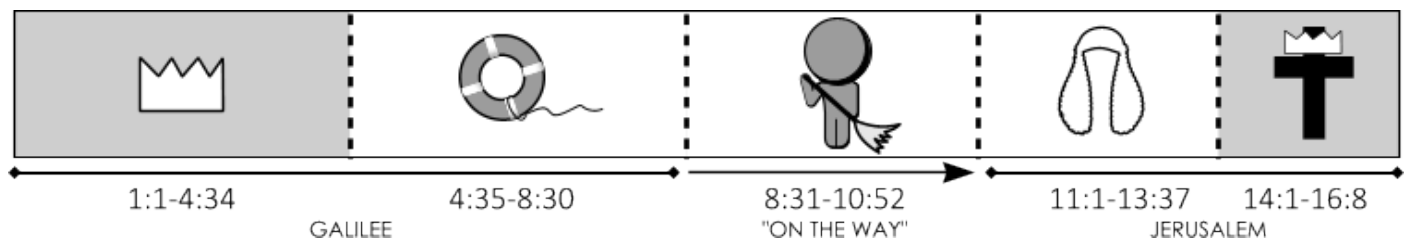
The prophets



500 years of silence

... then the arrival of the most remarkable man

MARK

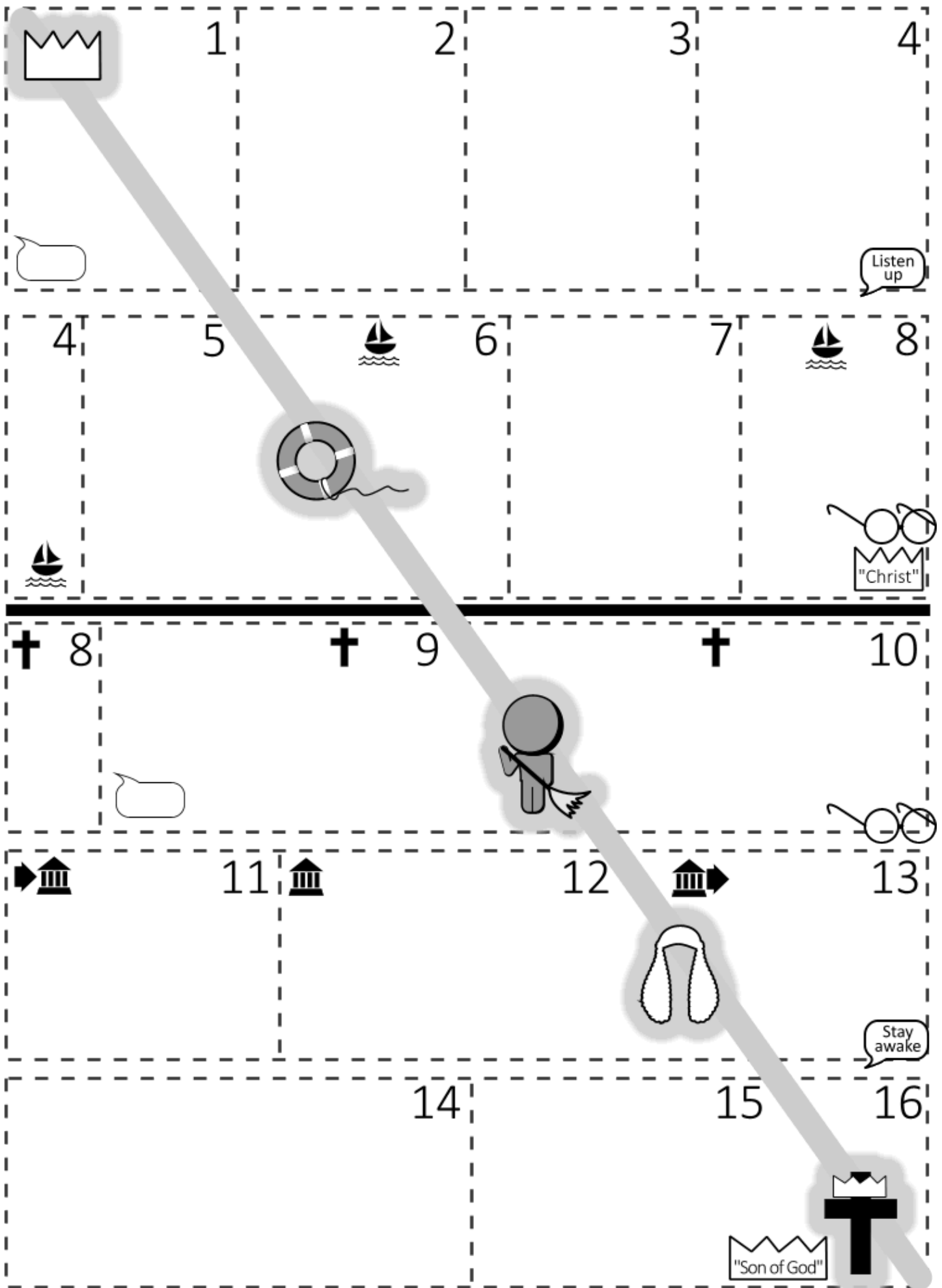


Favourite moment?

Most surprising moment?

Most confusing verse / passage?

If you could be anyone in Mark (exc. Jesus) who would it be? Why?



Greek vs. Geek



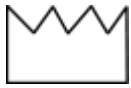
A working theory...

King

1:1 – *The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God*

Repentance and Faith

1:15 – *“The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel.”*



1:1-4:34: The King has arrived

A King that brings perfection...

1:34

.... forgiveness

2:17

...and change

2:21, 3:34

A King that brings division

3:6, 4:12

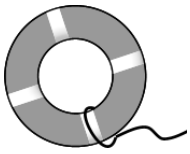


4:23

Key lesson: Jesus is bringing a new kingdom that divides response

How will the disciples respond?





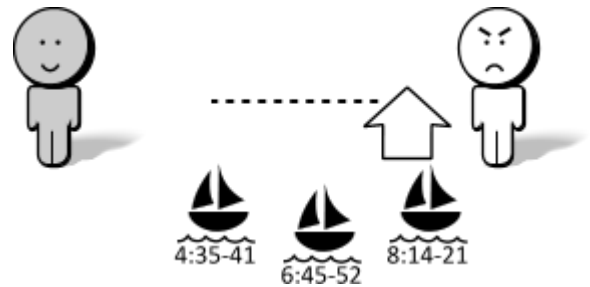
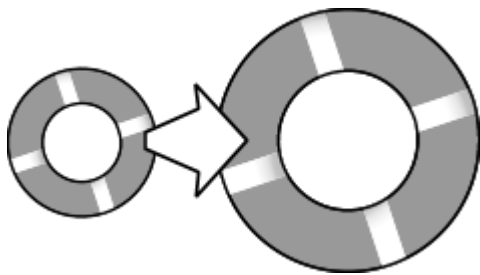
4:35-8:30: The Rescuing King

You wouldn't believe your eyes...

4:41, 6:41

...but the disciples are blind

6:51-52, 8:17-18



Jesus is the rescuer

7:37

Isaiah 32:1, 3 - *"Behold, a king will reign in righteousness ... Then the eyes of those who see will not be closed, and the ears of those who hear will give attention..."* cf. 35:5-6

8:29 ...

Key lesson: Jesus is establishing the promised rescue

... 8:30

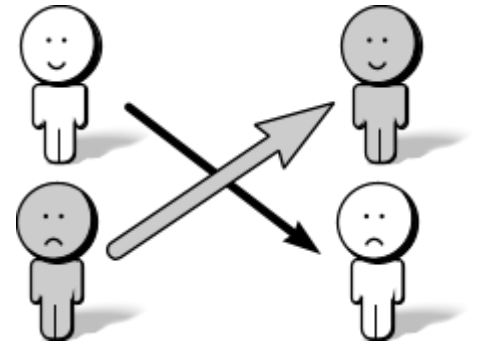




8:31-10:52: The Servant King

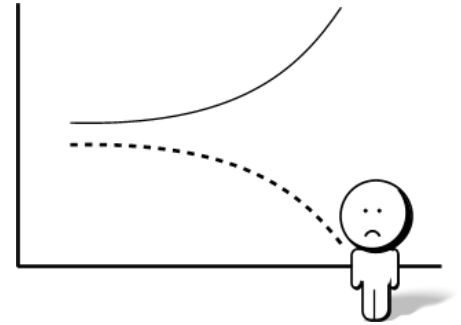
Time to step up

8:34



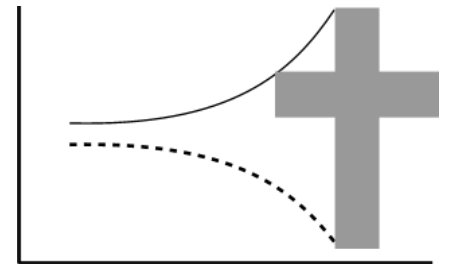
An unachievable standard

10:27



A ransom

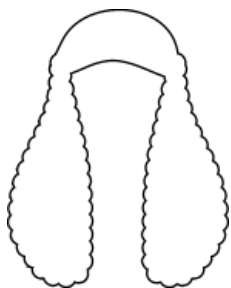
8:31, 10:45



Key lesson: Jesus is the suffering servant who pays our ransom



10:52



11:1-13:37: The Judging King

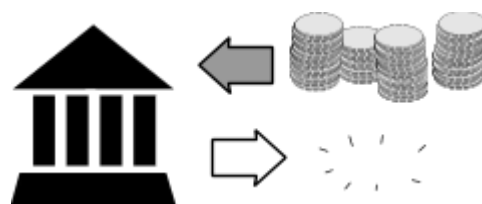
The Judge

11:7, 11:20

The Defendants...

12:1

12:30



...with the worst defence strategy ever

12:7, 12:10-11



The Judgement

13:28



Key lesson: Jesus is the judge of the world





14:1-16:8: The King enthroned at the Cross

The necessary conclusion

14:35

The astonishing conclusion

15:31-32

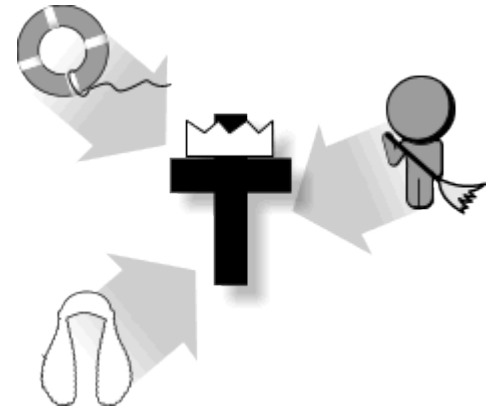
How will you respond?

Copy Bethany...

14:8

...not Mary

16:8



Key lesson: Jesus is enthroned at the cross



Greek vs. Geek (revisited)

Purpose (revisited)

Broader principles

1) *Gazing on Jesus*

What vs. Who

Turn it into prayer

e.g. 14:1-25

Don't let familiarity kill the surprise

Quiz yourself

- How would my life look different if I really believed this?
- What about our culture / my life makes it hard to believe this?
- How does this passage motivate me to change? (in **what** it says? In **how** it says it?)

Leader: where are you leading?

Jesus is bringing a new kingdom that divides response

- Write a list of things you're looking forward to. Does Jesus' kingdom feature? Where? Why?
- What kind of response do you expect Jesus to get in RML this year?
- How earnestly have you been listening to Jesus this week?
What sorts of things make you want to listen to Him?

Jesus is establishing the promised rescue

- Imagine you were just rescued from a fire. How would you feel about the person who rescued you?
When was the last time you saw Jesus that way?
- How often do you consider yourself 'blind'? How does that shape the way you come to Jesus?

Jesus is the suffering servant who pays our ransom

- "With man it is impossible..." (10:27). How does that make Jesus' perfect obedience even better?
- How much are you like Bartimaeus (10:46-52)? How could you be more like him?

Jesus is the judge of the world

- To what extent are you expecting worldwide judgement?
- How do you think of Jesus' identity as "judge" (e.g. good news or bad news)? Why?

Jesus is enthroned at the cross

- If you were having an evangelistic conversation, how keenly would you show people Jesus' death?
Why?
- Spend some time meditating on Jesus' death (cf. Mark 15). How do you want to respond to Jesus?

What changes (if any) would you like to make as a result of these lessons?

2) *First time leader vs. returning leader*

Where do you want to push?

3) *Two great questions to ask of any passage*

- What am I learning about Jesus & His Kingdom?
- Who is responding & how?

Example: 1:32-34

4) *Useful tools*

“Tell the story”

Repetition

Structure

Old Testament allusion

Tone

Context

5) *Useful themes*

1. The identity of Jesus

2. What Jesus came to do

3. The responses that people give Him

Disciples

Religious leaders

Randomers

4. The Old Testament

Which part(s) of the Old Testament does Mark love the most? How would you prove it?

Geeks vs Greeks

“Would I bring my friend?”

Key question to ask as you’re writing a study

Difference between RML and SLOBS

e.g. OT Allusion

Questions

Further reading

The Gospel According to Saint Mark (by Morna Hooker)

Hooker doesn't believe that many of the events of Mark's gospel actually happened; but she often has good insight into what they would mean *if they did*.

Dig Deeper into the Gospels (by Andrew Sach & Tim Hiorns)

WARNING: This gives away a lot of the answers. DO NOT READ IT UNTIL AFTER SLOBS. It won't always be right, and it certainly won't help you become a better leader if you read it before SLOBS: but it may sometimes help to consolidate what was covered.

Isaiah (by God)

Isaiah is a tragically neglected part of God's word, and yet Mark's extensive use of the prophecy hints at its significance for us! An independent foray into Isaiah is not for the faint-hearted, but Motyer's "Isaiah by the Day" may help those who want assistance.

1:1	1:15	1:34	2:17	2:21	3:6	3:34	4:12	4:23	4:41	6:41	6:51-52	7:37	8:17-18	8:29-30	8:31
U	3	B	E	2	J	N	L	X	S	G	A	K	4	P	M

8:34	10:27	10:45	10:52	11:7	11:20	12:1	12:7	12:10-11	12:30	13:28	14:8	14:35	15:31-32	15:39	16:8
5	O	W	C	Q	I	Z	T	1	R	V	F	Y	6	H	D

1	"Have you not read this Scripture: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is marvellous in our eyes?'"
2	"No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment. If he does, the patch tears away from it, the new from the old, and a worse tear is made."
3	[Jesus came] saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand; repent and believe in the gospel."
4	And Jesus, aware of this, said to them, "why are you discussing the fact that you have no bread? Do you not yet perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? Having eyes do you not see, and having ears do you not hear? And do you not remember?"
5	And he called to him the crowd with his disciples and said to them, "If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me."
6	...so also the chief priests with the scribes mocked him to one another, saying "He saved others; he cannot save himself. Let the Christ, the King of Israel, come down from the cross that we may see and believe." Those who were crucified with him also reviled him.
A	And he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.
B	And he healed many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons. And he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.
C	And Jesus said to him, "Go your way; your faith has made you well." And immediately he recovered his sight and followed him on the way.
D	And they went out and fled from the tomb, for trembling and astonishment had seized them, and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.
E	And when Jesus heard it, he said to them, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."
F	"She has done what she could; she has anointed my body beforehand for burial."
G	And taking the five loaves and the two fish he looked up to heaven and said a blessing and broke the loaves and gave them to the disciples to set before all the people. And he divided the two fish among them all.
H	And when the centurion, who stood facing him, saw that in this way he breathed his last, he said, "Truly this man was the Son of God!"
I	As they passed by in the morning, they saw the fig tree withered away to its roots
J	The Pharisees went out and immediately held counsel with the Herodians against him, how to destroy him

K	And they were astonished beyond measure, saying, "He has done all things well. He even makes the deaf hear and the mute speak."
L	"so that 'they may indeed see but not perceive, and may indeed hear but not understand, lest they should turn and be forgiven.'"
M	And he began to teach them that the Son of Man must suffer many things and be rejected by the elders and the chief priests and the scribes and be killed, and after three days rise again.
N	And looking about at those who sat around him, he said, "Here are my mother and my brothers!"
O	Jesus looked at them and said, "With man it is impossible, but not with God. For all things are possible with God."
P	And he asked them, "But who do you say that I am?" Peter answered him, "You are the Christ." And he strictly charged them to tell no one about him.
Q	And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it.
R	"'And you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.'
S	And they were filled with great fear and said to one another, "Who then is this, that even wind and sea obey him?"
T	"But those tenants said to one another, 'This is the heir. Come, let us kill him, and the inheritance will be ours.'"
U	The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
V	"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near."
W	"For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many."
X	"If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear."
Y	And going a little farther, he fell on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him.
Z	And he began to speak to them in parables. "A man planted a vineyard and put a fence around it and dug a pit for the wine press and built a tower, and leased it to tenants and went into another country."

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Studying and teaching Mark

Mark has a purpose so his method matters!

Group work:

What are the possible reasons groups might not be on board with Mark having a method?

What are the advantages of teaching Mark's purpose through his method?

Our prep: getting to grips with Mark's method for ourselves

The prep process

Prayer!

Reading:

1. What does the passage say? (Familiarity!)
2. What does the passage mean?

What methods is Mark using and why?

Thinking:

3. Why does the passage matter?

To original readers?

In the book?

Write down conclusions about purpose! (What the passage is saying and why)

4. How does the passage apply?

Mark's methods ("What does the passage mean?")

Structure

Group work:

Mark 11:12-21

What different events are happening here?

How does Mark's ordering of the events help us understand what's really going on?

(WHY has Mark structured it like this?)

Characters

Group work:

Mark 14:32-42

How do the disciples come across here? How does Jesus come across?

How does Mark's presentation of these characters help us appreciate Jesus and his death more? (WHY has Mark presented these characters like this?)

Old Testament allusion

Group work:

Mark 8:14-21, look up Jeremiah 5:19-21 & Ezekiel 12:1-2

Who is being described in the original OT context?

How does this help us understand what Jesus is saying about the disciples and their failure to understand? (WHY is Mark using this OT allusion?)

Writing a study: helping others get to grips with Mark's method for themselves

How is Mark achieving his purpose? (the pre-step!)

What were the 2 or 3 main methods he used to teach me?

How can I help my group see this for themselves?

Reading:

1. What does the passage say? (Familiarity!)

Group work:

Use Mark 4:21-34 (on the next page of the handout)

Come up with ideas to help your group get familiar with what the passage says.

2. What does the passage mean?

Group work:

What questions/activities could you plan to help your group see Mark's methods (imagery and repetition in 4:21-34) and why he's using them?

Thinking:

3. Why does the passage matter?
4. How does the passage apply?

PRAY

²¹And he said to them, “Is a lamp brought in to be put under a basket, or under a bed, and not on a stand? ²²For nothing is hidden except to be made manifest; nor is anything secret except to come to light. ²³If anyone has ears to hear, let him hear.” ²⁴And he said to them, “Pay attention to what you hear: with the measure you use, it will be measured to you, and still more will be added to you. ²⁵For to the one who has, more will be given, and from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away.” ²⁶And he said, “The kingdom of God is as if a man should scatter seed on the ground. ²⁷He sleeps and rises night and day, and the seed sprouts and grows; he knows not how. ²⁸The earth produces by itself, first the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear. ²⁹But when the grain is ripe, at once he puts in the sickle, because the harvest has come.” ³⁰And he said, “With what can we compare the kingdom of God, or what parable shall we use for it? ³¹It is like a grain of mustard seed, which, when sown on the ground, is the smallest of all the seeds on earth, ³²yet when it is sown it grows up and becomes larger than all the garden plants and puts out large branches, so that the birds of the air can make nests in its shade.” ³³With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it. ³⁴He did not speak to them without a parable, but privately to his own disciples he explained everything.

Example study

Note:

- Main point/purpose
- Order of questions
- Timings/proportions

Passage: Mark's main point here!

Easy starter question a. make sure everyone has spoken, b. get a feel for where they are at.

Pray

Timings (to help your co-leader help you!)

READING .

2-3 questions/activities on what the passage says, what the passage means.

1. Write clear, simple question numbered here.

Write some follow ups to help you host discussion. Your co-leader can use these too!

Write some brief answers.

2. Write clear, simple question numbered here.

Perhaps in sections/themes?

THINKING.

One (maybe 2) questions on why this passage matters.

3. Why does it matter that we know Jesus is King? (/this kind of King?)

*What are the dangers of not realising this?
How will realising this help us as we read on in Mark?*

Reach clear conclusions: What & Why? (*ideally in their words*)

Timings **Application:**

Help your group start to have their thinking changed by these conclusions. How does this sharpen...change...challenge?

Pray in line with this discussion

Things to remember

- Progress
- Pitch
- This session
- Have fun!

6pm team: Loving our people

Why does this session matter?

Biblical principles for ministry with people:

Ephesians 4:1-24

- 1 I therefore, a prisoner for the Lord, urge you to walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called,
- 2 with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love,
- 3 eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace.
- 4 There is one body and one Spirit—just as you were called to the one hope that belongs to your call—
- 5 one Lord, one faith, one baptism,
- 6 one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.
- 7 But grace was given to each one of us according to the measure of Christ's gift.
- 8 Therefore it says, "When he ascended on high he led a host of captives, and he gave gifts to men."
- 9 (In saying, "He ascended", what does it mean but that he had also descended into the lower regions, the earth?
- 10 He who descended is the one who also ascended far above all the heavens, that he might fill all things.)
- 11 And he gave the apostles, the prophets, the evangelists, the shepherds and teachers,
- 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ,
- 13 until we all attain to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to mature manhood, to the measure of the stature of the fullness of Christ,
- 14 so that we may no longer be children, tossed to and fro by the waves and carried about by every wind of doctrine, by human cunning, by craftiness in deceitful schemes.
- 15 Rather, speaking the truth in love, we are to grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ,
- 16 from whom the whole body, joined and held together by every joint with which it is equipped, when each part is working properly, makes the body grow so that it builds itself up in love.
- 17 Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds.
- 18 They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart.
- 19 They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practise every kind of impurity.
- 20 But that is not the way you learned Christ!—
- 21 assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus,
- 22 to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires,
- 23 and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds,
- 24 and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

- Our ministry aims:

- Our ministry methods:

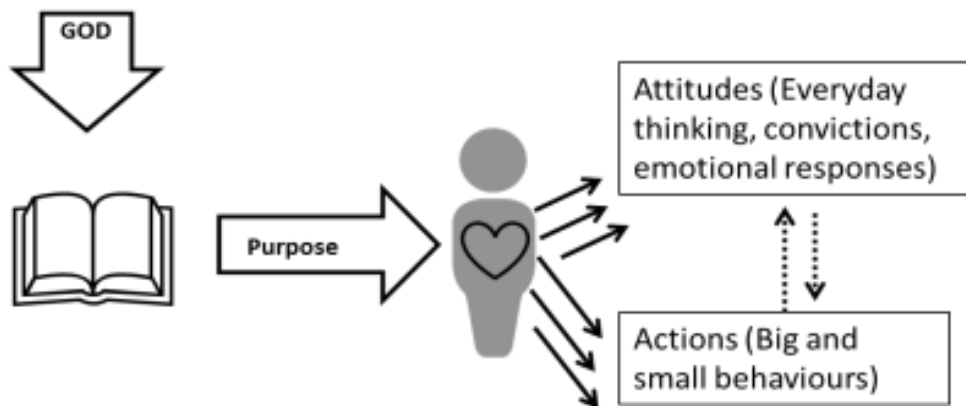
- Our ministry manner:

Group work: Pray through what we've just seen about the aims, method and manner of our ministry. Ask God to help us be more like this (as individuals and as a team).

Implications 1: in the study

Group work: brainstorm how an RML study which really applies these principles of the aim, method and manner of ministry might look. Be as creative as you wish.

Focus: Application in RML studies



Group work: Here's a study on Mark 1:1-15. You now have 5 mins in groups to write the application section. You have 30 minutes allotted in the study timing for this.

Write main point here! Pray.

1. What it says: We're going to look at the different messengers in Mark 1:1-15. Who are all the different messengers in Mark 1:1-15? What do they each tell us about Jesus? (Use speech bubbles) (15-20mins)
2. What it means: Let's explore what these claims about Jesus mean (group work on Old Testament passages, Isaiah 40, Malachi 3, Psalm 2). What was each OT passage pointing to? So what is Mark saying about Jesus? (15-20mins)
3. Purpose: Why might Mark have started his book like this? Discuss (15mins)
4. Conclusions: In pairs, on post its. In 1/2 sentences summarise what have we learned here about Jesus, how does Mark want us to respond? (Complete the sentence: Mark wants his readers to....) (5mins)
5. Application: (30mins)

Implications 2: outside the study

Group work: brainstorm how 'care for your group members outside RML' which really applies these principles of the aim, method and manner of ministry might look. Be as creative as you wish.

Focus: Intentional conversations/relationships

Group work:

Case study A: J has just arrived at St Helen's. They went to a good university church, and are quickly getting stuck into St Helen's. They're in your group, and sometime in November you invite them around for dinner. As you cook the pasta what are your thoughts on how ministry might look this evening/year?

Case study B: K is in your group for the first time this year. Last year they did CE, and professed faith. You meet up early in RML term, and they say they want to tell you some stuff. Before they were a Christian they lived live with their girlfriend/boyfriend, they moved out when they become a Christian, but occasionally meet up with her/him, and it feels like a struggle not to go back to old patterns of intimacy. K's been ok over the last few weeks, but just want you to know as now you're their RML leader, and their CE leader said it would be a good idea to tell you! What are you thoughts on how ministry might look this evening/year?

If you have time: consider how ministry might look where one of your group members has depression (or another mental health diagnosis) or where a group member has been at St Helen's for a long time.

Men & Women: Serving together

1. Creation: God's beautiful order

2. The Fall: Our ugly disorder

3. Salvation: God's resurrection reorder

Men serving well as men...

Women serving well as women...

Discussion starters...

1. What from the bible's teaching particularly struck you? Are there any ways in which you need to readjust your thinking?
2. What do you and your co-leader want to do to make your co-leading team the best it can be?
3. How can you make this an on-going conversation throughout the year?

Notes

St Helen's Leaders' training weekend

6-8 September 2019

Ashburnham Place

Friday

- 6.30–8.30 pm Dinner
- 9pm Welcome and introduction | The Great Hall
- 9.30pm Chill out in the Orangery (optional)

Saturday

- 8am SLOB leaders' prayer meeting
- 7.30–9.15am Breakfast (hot breakfast served from 8.30am)
- 9.30am–1pm Session 1 | Read Mark Mark Mark Learn Mark | The Great Hall
- 1pm Lunch
- 2–5pm Free time
- 5–5.45pm Session 2 | Studying and teaching Mark | The Great Hall
- 5.45–7pm SLOB study | Mark 1:1-15
- 7pm Dinner
- 8.30pm Team 6pm fun!
- 9pm Bonfire

Sunday

- 7.30–9.15am Breakfast (please check out before 1st session)
- 9.30–11am Session 3 | Loving our people | The Great Hall
- 11–11.30am Coffee
- 11.30am–12pm Session 4 | Together as men and women | The Great Hall
- 12.10–1pm Expectations, questions and prayer
- 1pm Lunch & depart