

STRUCTURE OF MARK'S GOSPEL

Here is the readings for the first course listed according to the structure of Mark and each week of the course.

WEEK 1: THE WORD OF GOD

Gen 1:1-2:4a (1)

John 1:1-17 (2)

Ez 37:1-14 (3)

DV 2 (4)

1) Prologue

- a. The Beginning of the Gospel Mk:1:1-6 (5)
- b. At the Jordan Mk:1:7-11 (6)
- c. The Temptation Mk:1:12-13 (7)

WEEK 2: MARK'S GOSPEL AN OVERVIEW

2) Jesus is gradually revealed as Messiah

a. Early Ministry

- a) Summary: Preaching the Gospel Mk 1:14-15 (1)
- b) Call of the First Disciples Mk:1:16-20 (2)
- c) Teaching and Challenge
 - 1. Jesus Teaches and Heals
 - a. The Demoniac Mk:1:21-28 (3)
 - b. A Group of Miracles Mk:1:29-34 (4)
 - c. Jesus in Solitude Mk:1:35-39 (5)
 - d. The Leper Mk:1:40-45 (6 and 7)

WEEK 3: GEOGRAPHY AND HISTORY

2. Controversy with scribes and Pharisees

- a. The Sick of the Palsy Mk:2:1-12 (1)
- b. The Call and Feast of Levi Mk:2:13-17 (2)
- c. The Controversy concerning Fasting Mk:2:18-22 (3)
- d. The Sabbath Mk:2:23-28 (4)
- e. The Withered Hand Mk 3:1-4 (5)
- d) Pharisees and Herodians seek to destroy Jesus Mk 3:5-6 (6)

Beatitudes Matthew 5:3-12 (7)

WEEK 4: THE COVENANT, LAW AND LOVE

b. Jesus' Ministry Extended – The Twelve Appointed

- a) Summary of healings and exorcisms Mk: 3:7-12 (1)
- b) Institution of the Twelve The Choice of the Twelve Mk 3:13-19 (2/3)
- c) Challenge, Teaching and Miracles
 - 1. Jesus withdraws from family and Jewish Leaders
 - a. Christ and Beelzebub Mk 3:20-27 (4)
 - b. "Eternal Sin" Mk 3:28-30 (5)
 - c. The Friends of Jesus Mk 3:31-35 (6/7)

WEEK 5: PARABLES AND MIRACLES

2. Parables and Miracles

- a. The Sower Mk 4:1-9 (1)
- b. The Sower explained Mk 4:10-20 (1)
- c. Lamp and Stand Mk 4:21-25 (2)
- d. The Seed Growing Secretly Mk 4:26-29 (3)
- e. The Mustard Seed Mk 4:30-34 (4)
- f. Jesus Walking on the Water 4:35-41 (5)
- g. The Demoniac of Gadara Mk 5:1-20 (6)
- h. With Jairus Mk 5:21-43 (7)

WEEK 6: EUCHARIST

d) Rejected in His Own Country Mk 6:1-6a (1)

c. Jesus' Ministry & Person, Symbolised & Revealed – Disciples in Action

- a) Summary of Jesus teaching Mk 6:6b (1)
- b) The Mission of the Twelve Mk 6:7-13 (1)
- c) Who is Jesus?
 - 1. Opinion about Jesus
 - a. Herod Mk 6:14-29 (2)
 - 1. Bread section
 - a. Bread in the Desert Mk 6:30-46 (3)
 - b. Jesus Walking on the Water Mk 6:47-52 (4)
 - c. Unwashed Hands Mk 6:53 - 7:13 (5)
 - d. Things which Defile Mk 7:14-23 (6)
 - e. The Children and the Dogs Mk 7:24-30 (7)

WEEK 7: JESUS IS THE MESSIAH

- f. The Deaf-and-Dumb Man Mk 7:31-37 (1)
- g. The Four Thousand Mk 8:1-10 (2)
- h. The Leaven of the Pharisees Mk 8:11-16 (3)
- d) Lack of Understanding of disciples Mk 8:17-21 (4)

3) Transition

- a. Coming to physical sight Mk 8:22-26 (5)
- b. The Confession Mk 8:27-30 (6)

Matthew 16: 13-20 (7)

SUGGESTED PRAYER METHOD

I suggest 5 minutes and the following method. If it is the last thing you do before going to sleep - that is just fine. You may like to place your Bible and this booklet next to your bed to remind you to read and pray.

1) Call to mind God's presence, by making the sign of the cross.

2) Read the suggested passage for the day. Read it slowly. If something catches your attention. Think about it. If your mind starts to wander, go back to reading the scripture. It does not matter if you don't finish reading the whole passage. It is more important to think about God and reflect on his goodness.

3) If something comes to mind, particularly as a response to what you read, to do a particular thing, then make a decision to do it.

4) Finish with an Our Father and the sign of the cross.