



Sermon Discussion Guide

Prologue to Mark - Tim Knipp

Sept 28, 2025

Hook - Getting to know one another

- *How is everyone doing this week? Add other questions to get to know one another, especially ones related to the topic in the sermon.*
- As we are looking at Jesus this year,, through the Gospel of Mark:
 - What stories or moments of Jesus in the Gospels stand out as favorites for you? What do you think draws you to those moments?
 - What about Jesus has drawn you towards him?
- Consider watching Bible Project video on the Gospel of Mark as a group:
 - <https://bibleproject.com/videos/mark/>
 - What are you excited to look at more deeply in Mark over the course of this year?

Book - Scripture

- *Read the scripture passages and discuss to understand **what the text is saying**:*
- What do we know about the writing of the Gospel of Mark?
 - Who wrote the book?
 - Who was the audience for the book?
 - When was it written?
 - Why was this Gospel written?
- **Read Mark 1:1-13.** Consider reading, also, Malachi 3:3, and Isaiah 40:3, for context to Mark 1: 2-3.
- What echoes from the Old Testament come through in this passage? (Consider especially the story of Israel in the Exodus).
- How are the characters portrayed in Mark's prologue?
 - John the Baptist?
 - Jesus?
- What is the purpose set out for this Gospel here in the prologue?



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Look - Connections to our world today

- *This section focuses on implications about **what this text means** about what's wrong in the world, about trusting God, about who God is, etc.*
- What is the good news promised here in the beginning of the Gospel of Mark?
- What in this passage (and in the themes of Mark as a whole) speak into our current moment, and our lives today?
 - For this, consider making writing materials available, and allowing your group a few minutes to journal, draw, or reflect before sharing.
- What does this passage set us up to look for through the remainder of Mark?

Took - Personal Application

- *This application focuses on **how God is calling us to respond**. This could be personally, as a family, small group, or church. It could be something to believe, to meditate on, to say or do this week.*
- Through this fall and this year, what steps are you going to take to dig into the Gospel of Mark?
 - What will this look like for you personally?
 - What will you do in community with others?
 - How will we do this as a small group?
- How do you hope that God meets you and us (both as a small group and as a church) through our study of Mark this year?
 - Allow this to lead your group into a time of prayer for our study of Mark.

Time of Prayer