

THE GOSPEL OF MARK - GUIDE 2

# KINGDOM REVEALED

MARK 2:18 - 7:23

NAME:

# MARK 2:18-22

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Where have you felt the seams of your understanding begin to tear as you've discovered more about Jesus?

Why is it easier to try to fit truths of Jesus into our old ideas? What would it look like to allow those truths to completely remake us?

Joy or happiness is often tied to what is happening in our lives. How can understanding that the presence of Jesus brings joy change that paradigm?

From Luke's telling of the parable of the garment, we hear Jesus say that it is inappropriate to tear a piece of a new garment and sew it onto the old. If Jesus himself is the new garment, are there times we try to take just part of Jesus or his teaching and leave the rest? What scares you most about accepting all of Jesus without condition?

Ephesians 4:22-24 says, "You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; to be made new in the attitude of your minds; and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness." What behavior or attitude still exists of our old self?

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# MARK 2:23-3:6

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

How does knowing the Sabbath was made for people, not for the sake of rules, change the way you see God's heart toward you?

Where in your life—or in the lives of others—do you need Jesus to see what others overlook?

What does Jesus's willingness to heal and restore even at a cost teach you about his love and mercy?

How does recognizing Jesus as Lord over everything—including rules, traditions, and struggles—bring you freedom and rest?

Like the restored masterpiece, how does Jesus see your potential beyond your current brokenness, and how can you come to him to receive it?

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# MARK 3:7-19

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

In addition to joining Jesus in his kingdom-building work, the disciples were also friends to Jesus, praying with him and offering support (even if they did so imperfectly). How does this show us the importance of meaningful, vulnerable friendships with people who encourage us to draw more closely to Jesus? How can you take a step this week to invest in these kinds of relationships?

There are many times in the gospels when Jesus withdraws to pray alone, but sometimes he withdraws *with* the disciples. How do you regularly invest in prayer *with* others, not just for others? What obstacles do you face in praying aloud with other people? How might God be calling you in life right now to go deeper in prayer and in community with others?

In Mark 3:14-15, we read that Jesus specifically equipped the disciples with authority to preach and to drive out demons. How might God be equipping you with opportunity and authority to share the good news with others? How does it encourage you that God can work in such powerful ways through imperfect people?

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# MARK 3:20-35

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

In Mark 3:20-27, Jesus says that a house divided against itself cannot stand. Where do you see division affecting families, churches, or communities today? How can we be people who help bring unity instead?

The religious leaders saw the work of Jesus and said it was from evil (Mark 3:22). What does this teach us about how we misunderstand what God is doing? How can we stay open to the work of the Holy Spirit?

Jesus gives a serious warning about blaspheming against the Holy Spirit in Mark 3. What do you think it means to have a heart that is open to God rather than hardened? What practices help us stay responsive to Him?

Jesus says, “Whoever does God’s will is my brother and sister and mother” (Mark 3:35). How does this change the way we think about church and our relationships with other believers?

Jesus redefines family in a powerful way. In what ways can we live like a true spiritual family—showing love, support, and belonging to one another in everyday life? Who in your life might need to experience that kind of family right now?

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# MARK 4:1-20

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Do you remember the first time you truly heard the Word of God? What changes took place in your life?

In many ways, we can often relate to the disciples. Can you think of a time when you had to wrestle with the meaning of God's Word? How did you respond?

Have you ever experienced "rocky" seasons in your faith journey? What did that look like for you? How did you experience God's grace through that time?

Jesus warns us of "deceitfulness of riches and the desire for other things." Are you aware of any potential barriers in your life that may get in the way of deeper discipleship?

How have you experienced the fruit of God's Word growing in your life? What would it look like a hundredfold?

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# MARK 4:21-34

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

In Gospel of Mark 4:21-25, Jesus says that what is hidden will be brought into the light. Where do you see God at work right now in ways that might be easy to overlook or dismiss? How does Jesus' teaching about the kingdom of God being revealed over time speak to you?

The parable of the growing seed (Mark 4:26-29) reminds us that growth happens in ways we don't fully understand and cannot control. Do you ever feel tempted to control outcomes instead of trusting God's work? What helps you trust God when growth feels slow, hidden, or uncertain?

Jesus describes the kingdom like a mustard seed—small, but full of potential (Mark 4:30-32). What is one “small” seed in your life that God might be using in a bigger way than you realize (maybe a small spiritual habit, a healthy relationship, or step of obedience)?

Jesus invites us to participate in God's kingdom. What is one simple, faithful step you can take this week to stay rooted in what God is doing, sow a seed, or shine the light of Christ?

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# MARK 4:35-41

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

Think of the earliest storm/struggle you can remember in your life and the most recent. How has your faith - the knowledge of God pressed into your being - changed from the first to the last?

Has your fear of potential storms kept you from following God in certain areas of your life? Are there waters Jesus is calling you to set sail upon, but you know storms are frequent in those waters, so you stay on shore?

What would it look like to focus on Jesus in the storm? How can you make it not just a sentiment but a reality?

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# MARK 5:1-20

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

In Mark 5:6, the man runs to Jesus. What does this show us about coming to Christ in our darkness?

How do verses 7-13 reveal Jesus's authority over evil, and why does that matter for us today?

In verse 15, the man is "sitting... dressed and in his right mind." What does this teach us about the transformation Jesus brings?

In verses 19-20, Jesus sends the man to tell his story. How can you share what the Lord has done for you this week?

Where do you see yourself in this story? Struggling with something inside you? Resisting what Jesus wants to change? Or already changed—but silent? How is Jesus speaking to you? Where do you need his deliverance?

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# MARK 5:21-43

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

In what area of your life do you most need to “fall at the feet of Jesus” like Jairus (Mark 5:22-23)?

Where are you reaching out to Jesus in faith—even if it feels weak or imperfect—like the woman (Mark 5:27-28)?

How does Jesus calling the woman “Daughter” (Mark 5:34) reshape how you see your identity in him?

What fear in your life is Jesus confronting with the words, “Don’t be afraid; just believe” (Mark 5:36)?

How can you reflect the compassion of Christ this week to someone who feels overlooked, suffering, or without hope?

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# MARK 6:1-13

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

In Gospel of Mark 6:1-6, the people of Nazareth struggled to see Jesus clearly because he seemed too familiar to them. How can familiarity with church, faith, or even Jesus sometimes keep us from truly listening or responding to him?

Jesus sent the disciples out with very little, teaching them to depend on God rather than themselves (Mark 6:7-9). Where do you feel most tempted to rely on your own strength instead of trusting God?

Jesus warned the disciples that not everyone would welcome or receive them (Mark 6:10-11). How do you typically respond to rejection, discouragement, or resistance in your faith or relationships?

The disciples were ordinary people, yet Jesus still sent them to participate in his mission. What gifts, opportunities, or relationships might God already be using in your life to share his love with others?

One of the main themes of this passage is faithful obedience even when outcomes are uncertain. What would it look like for you this week to “stay faithful, stay humble, and stay on mission”?

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# MARK 6:14-29

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

How is your faith similar to how Herod viewed John the Baptist? In what ways are you a secret fan of Jesus but publicly shy away?

Why do you think people care more about how others view them and less about how God views them? Are you more concerned with being faithful—or being liked?

Where are you listening to truth—but not allowing it to change you?

If speaking the truth cost you something this week... would you still speak it?

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# MARK 6:30-44

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

How do you find rest and renewal with Jesus in the midst of the work he calls you to each day?

How can the church live out its call to raise up and send out new leaders? Can you give examples of ways you have seen this done well?

Jesus had compassion on the crowds. Is there a group of people you tend to have compassion for? How might God be leading you to respond?

God is not limited to our resources or strength. Can you think of a time when God showed up and worked in a situation when it seemed impossible?

The blessing and breaking of bread as Jesus feeds the crowd is similar to Holy Communion. What role does the sacrament of Communion play in your spiritual nourishment?

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# MARK 6:45-56

## REFLECTION QUESTIONS

The Bible is filled with stories of God working in ways that are outside of what is “normal” to this world (parting the sea, providing manna in the desert, healing the sick, raising the dead, etc.) Why do you think it is so hard for us to think God may do things in our life that do not seem plausible to us?

What blinds you most to God’s presence in your daily life? What is something concrete you can do this week to help remove those blinders?

How have your past encounters with God changed you? Do you trust God more today? If not, why not?

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## MEMORY VERSE

### MARK 2:22-23

“For whatever is hidden is meant to be disclosed, and whatever is concealed is meant to be brought out into the open. If anyone has ears to hear, let them hear.”

#### FOR CHILDREN:

“What is hidden will be made known...if anyone has ears to hear, let them hear.”

## FAMILY CORNER

As we walk through the Gospel of Mark, our children and teens are journeying through Scripture alongside us! Each lesson is intentionally designed to reflect the same truths taught in our weekly sermons, equipping you as a family to carry those truths beyond Sunday morning and into your everyday lives together. To find out more about how to walk through MARK with your family - reach out to your campus Kids Min & Student Min leaders.