

Gospel of Mark

Bible Reading Plan for New Christians

A 30-Day Discipleship Reading Plan

Purpose

The Gospel of Mark is a wonderful place for new Christians to begin because it moves quickly, focuses clearly on Jesus, and repeatedly asks the reader to answer one central question:

Who is Jesus, and what does it mean to follow Him?

Mark presents Jesus as the promised Messiah, the Son of God, the Servant-King, and the Savior who came to suffer, die, and rise again.

How to Use This Plan

Each day, read the assigned passage slowly. Before you read, pray:

Lord, open my eyes to see Christ clearly, understand Your Word rightly, and obey You faithfully.

Then use either the Core Observation Questions or the S.O.A.P. Method. Both tools are designed to help new believers move from reading the Bible to understanding, believing, obeying, and praying the Bible.

Option 1: Core Observation Questions

1. What does this passage teach me about Jesus?
2. What does this passage teach me about people, sin, faith, or discipleship?
3. Is there a command to obey, a promise to trust, a warning to heed, or an example to follow?
4. What is one truth I need to believe today?
5. What is one step of obedience I should take?
6. How should I pray in response to this passage?

Option 2: The S.O.A.P. Method

S - Scripture: Write down one verse or phrase that stood out.

O - Observation: What does the passage say? What is happening? What do you learn about Jesus?

A - Application: How does this truth apply to your life today?

P - Prayer: Write a short prayer asking God to help you believe and obey His Word.

30-Day Reading Plan Through Mark

Days 1-15

Day	Passage	Focus	Completed
1	Mark 1:1-13	The Beginning of the Gospel	☐
2	Mark 1:14-28	Jesus Announces the Kingdom	☐
3	Mark 1:29-45	Jesus Heals and Cleanses	☐
4	Mark 2:1-12	Jesus Forgives Sin	☐
5	Mark 2:13-28	Jesus Calls Sinners and Confronts Religion	☐
6	Mark 3:1-19	Jesus Calls His Disciples	☐
7	Mark 3:20-35	The True Family of Jesus	☐
8	Mark 4:1-20	The Parable of the Soils	☐
9	Mark 4:21-41	Hearing, Trusting, and Following	☐
10	Mark 5:1-20	Jesus Has Authority Over Demons	☐
11	Mark 5:21-43	Jesus Has Authority Over Disease and Death	☐
12	Mark 6:1-29	Rejection, Faithfulness, and Cost	☐
13	Mark 6:30-56	Jesus Feeds and Rescues	☐
14	Mark 7:1-23	The Problem of the Heart	☐
15	Mark 7:24-37	Grace Beyond Expectation	☐

30-Day Reading Plan Through Mark

Days 16-30

Day	Passage	Focus	Completed
16	Mark 8:1-21	Spiritual Blindness and Patient Mercy	☐
17	Mark 8:22-38	Who Do You Say Jesus Is?	☐
18	Mark 9:1-29	Glory, Faith, and Dependence	☐
19	Mark 9:30-50	True Greatness and Serious Discipleship	☐
20	Mark 10:1-31	Marriage, Children, and Eternal Life	☐
21	Mark 10:32-52	The Servant Who Gives His Life	☐
22	Mark 11:1-26	The King Enters Jerusalem	☐
23	Mark 11:27-12:17	Jesus' Authority Challenged	☐
24	Mark 12:18-44	Love God, Love Neighbor, Give Yourself	☐
25	Mark 13:1-37	Watchfulness and Future Hope	☐
26	Mark 14:1-31	The Last Supper and Coming Betrayal	☐
27	Mark 14:32-72	Gethsemane, Arrest, and Denial	☐
28	Mark 15:1-20	Jesus Condemned in Our Place	☐
29	Mark 15:21-47	The Crucifixion and Burial of Jesus	☐
30	Mark 16:1-20	The Resurrection and the Mission	☐

Weekly Themes for Reflection

Week 1: Jesus Begins His Ministry

Mark 1-2 - Jesus comes preaching the gospel, calling sinners, healing the broken, forgiving sin, and showing that He is Lord.

Key Question: Am I beginning to see Jesus not merely as a teacher, but as Lord and Savior?

Week 2: Jesus Reveals His Authority

Mark 3-5 - Jesus demonstrates authority over demons, sickness, nature, sin, and death.

Key Question: Where do I need to trust the authority of Jesus more fully?

Week 3: Jesus Teaches True Discipleship

Mark 6-8 - Jesus exposes unbelief, spiritual blindness, false religion, and shallow following.

Key Question: Am I following Jesus on His terms or my own?

Week 4: Jesus Goes to the Cross

Mark 9-13 - Jesus teaches that true greatness comes through humility, service, sacrifice, and watchful faithfulness.

Key Question: What does it mean for me to deny myself, take up my cross, and follow Christ?

Final Days: Jesus Dies and Rises Again

Mark 14-16 - The Gospel reaches its climax: Jesus is betrayed, condemned, crucified, buried, and raised from the dead.

Key Question: How should the death and resurrection of Jesus change the way I live today?

Simple Discipleship Prompts for New Christians

At the end of each week, discuss these questions with a pastor, mentor, parent, or mature believer.

1. What did you learn about Jesus this week?
2. What confused you or raised questions?
3. What encouraged you?
4. What convicted you?
5. What is one area where you need to obey Christ?
6. How can someone pray for you this week?

Weekly Reflection Notes

Week 1 Reflection

One truth about Jesus:

One command, promise, warning, or example:

One step of obedience:

Prayer request:

Week 2 Reflection

One truth about Jesus:

One command, promise, warning, or example:

One step of obedience:

Prayer request:

Week 3 Reflection

One truth about Jesus:

One command, promise, warning, or example:

One step of obedience:

Prayer request:

Week 4 Reflection

One truth about Jesus:

One command, promise, warning, or example:

One step of obedience:

Prayer request:

A Simple Closing Prayer

Lord Jesus, help me to see You clearly in Your Word. Teach me who You are, what You have done, and what it means to follow You. Strengthen my faith, expose my sin, grow my obedience, and help me walk with You as my Savior, Lord, and King. Amen.