

SOUL INSPIRED STUDY JOURNAL

Through the Word

read - write - journal - pray

SWEET TO THE SOUL
ministries

Through the Word

read · write · journal · pray

Through the Word – The Gospel According to Mark

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Content sources include but are not limited to:
SweetToTheSoul.com
ESV Global Study Bible (esv.org)
Charles Swindoll
InterVarsity

Additional teachings and resources offered online at
SweetToTheSoul.com and through our ministry
partners.

Look for additional *Through the Word* resources at
sweettothesoul.com/through-the-word

Ways To Use This Journal

read.

Each day read the designated chapter of the Bible.

- You can stick to your favorite translation or read the chapter in multiple translations. If you want to learn more about what you have just read, you might also, 1) read a commentary teaching on the chapter, or 2) listen to a sermon on a specific section of the chapter.
- During our *Through the Word* journey, we will also be sharing content like blog posts and links to additional material on topics we will be reading about in each book of the Bible. Follow us on [Facebook](#) & [Instagram](#) and [subscribe to our newsletter](#) to access this bonus content.

memorize.

- Each week, select a Scripture verse or set of verses to commit to memory.

Each day write out the designated chapter of the Bible.

- Select your preferred translation or change it up and switch translations each chapter. Writing Scripture is a great way to enhance focus, as it slows our reading as we concentrate on each word being written.
- Make multiple copies of the “Notes” page included in this packet, or you could use notebook paper and collect all of your *Through the Word* materials in a notebook.
- Spiral notebooks or journals are also great to use as you are writing Scripture each day. Your notebooks of hand-written Scripture will definitely be a treasure to share with your family and friends.

write.

- Select a Scripture(s) to creatively letter or illustrate.

letter.

journal.

Each day journal about what you have learned about the designated chapter.

- Included for each chapter of the Bible, are a few study questions to prompt you to consider what God wants you to learn through His Word.
- We’ve also included a special page for you to notate (and answer) any questions which may come to mind as you are reading.
- Also, we will be sharing resources and examples of Bible Art Journaling which you can add to your journal, journaling Bible or tuck inside your reading Bible.

research.

- As you are reading, there may be words, phrases, verses or themes which stand out to you. These make great starting points to dig deeper in God’s Word.
- A few of the study materials we like to use are Commentaries, Sermon notes and a Bible Dictionary. On-line resources we recommend include [BibleHub.com](#), [BlueLetterBible.org](#) and [BibleStudyTools.com](#).

Each day pray prior to reading the designated chapter of the Bible.

- All time in the Word should begin with prayer. Talk to God about what He wants you to learn through his Word. Ask him to clear your mind of stray thoughts and open your heart to his teaching.
- Also, as you read the day’s chapter, make note of any verses which you can pray over someone or even yourself and your family. Praying God’s Word back to him is a wonderful way to pray within the will of God.

pray.

SWEET TO THE SOUL
**Through
the Word**

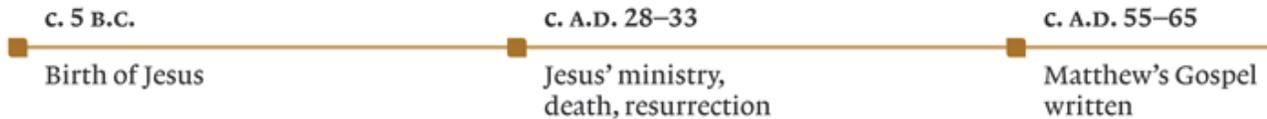
THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO

mark

SWEET TO THE SOUL
ministries

Background on The Book of Mark

Timeline



Author, Date, and Recipients

The apostle Peter passed on reports of the words and deeds of Jesus to his attendant, John Mark, who wrote this Gospel for the wider church as the record of Peter’s apostolic testimony. The book was likely written from Rome during the mid- to late-50s A.D. (though the mid- or late-60s is also possible). Mark’s audience, largely unfamiliar with Jewish customs, needed to become familiar with such customs in order to understand the coming of Jesus as the culmination of God’s work with Israel and the entire world, so Mark explains them.

Purpose and Theme

The ultimate purpose and theme of Mark’s Gospel is to present and defend Jesus’ universal call to discipleship. Mark returns often to this theme, categorizing his main audience as either followers or opponents of Jesus. Mark presents and supports this call to discipleship by narrating the identity and teaching of Jesus. For Mark, discipleship is essentially a relationship with Jesus, not merely following a certain code of conduct. Fellowship with Jesus marks the heart of the disciple’s life, and this fellowship includes trusting Jesus, confessing him, observing his conduct, following his teaching, and being shaped by a relationship with him. Discipleship also means being prepared to face the kind of rejection that Jesus faced.

Key Themes

- I. Jesus seeks to correct messianic expectations and misunderstandings (1:25, 34, 44; 3:12; 4:10–12; 5:18–19, 43; 8:30; 9:9).
- II. Jesus is man (3:5; 4:38; 6:6; 7:34; 8:12, 33; 10:14; 11:12; 14:33–42).
- III. Jesus is the Son of God (1:11; 3:11; 5:7; 8:38; 9:7; 12:6–8; 13:32; 14:36, 61; 15:39).
- IV. Jesus is the Son of Man with all power and authority (1:16–34; 2:3–12, 23–28; 3:11; 4:35–41; 6:45–52; 7:1–23; 10:1–12).
- V. Jesus as the Son of Man must suffer (8:31; 10:45; 14:21, 36).
- VI. Jesus is Lord (2:28; 12:35–37; 14:62).
- VII. Jesus calls his followers to imitate him in humble service, self-denial, and suffering (8:34–38; 9:35–37; 10:35–45).
- VIII. Jesus teaches on the kingdom of God, and implies that God continues to call a people to himself (compare 1:15; 9:1; 14:25; 15:43).

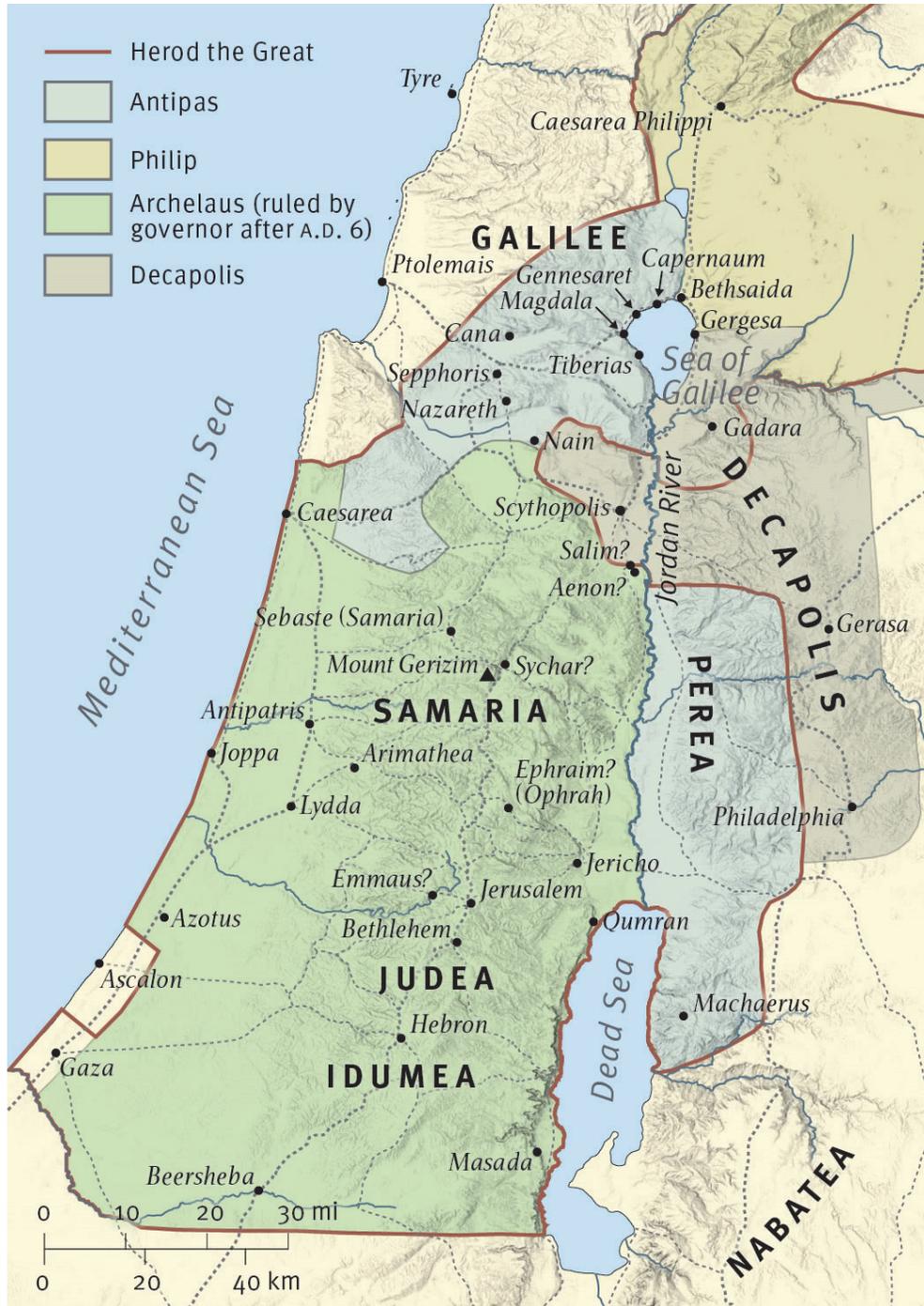
Outline

- I. Introduction (1:1–15)
- II. Demonstration of Jesus’ Authority (1:16–8:26)
 - A. Jesus’ early Galilean ministry (1:16–3:12)
 - B. Jesus’ later Galilean ministry (3:13–6:6)
 - C. Work beyond Galilee (6:7–8:26)
- III. Testing Jesus’ Authority in Suffering (8:27–16:8)
 - A. Journey to Jerusalem (8:27–10:52)
 - B. Entering and judging Jerusalem (11:1–13:37)
 - C. Death and resurrection in Jerusalem (14:1–16:8)
 - D. “Longer ending of Mark” (16:9–20)]

Background on The Book of Mark

The Setting of Mark

The events in the book of Mark take place almost entirely within Palestine, from Caesarea Philippi in the north to Beersheba in the south. During this time Palestine was ruled by the Roman Empire. The book opens with Jesus' baptism by John during the rule of Pontius Pilate and the tetrarchs Antipas and Philip. It closes with Jesus' death and resurrection about three years later.



Source: ESV Global Study Bible (esv.org)

MARK

<p>Introduction and Preparation A brief introduction sets Jesus's ministry in motion. John the Baptist prepares the way. Jesus is tempted in the wilderness.</p> <p>CHAPTER 1:1–13</p>	<p>The Servant at Work Jesus helping people in need. Because people are in darkness, He enlightens. Because people are sick/afflicted, He heals. Because people are without hope, He encourages. Because people are in bondage to satanic control, He liberates. Because people are sinful, He forgives.</p> <p>CHAPTERS 1:14–8:30</p>	<p>The Servant Rejected . . . Then Exalted A growing discontent among the authorities leads to Jesus's suffering and death. He presses the claim, "Messiah." He spends more time alone with His disciples. He comes into open conflict with His enemies. He is hated, deserted, tortured, crucified, and buried. He is raised bodily from the dead!</p> <p>CHAPTERS 8:31–16:20</p>
Emphasis	Service to others	
Scope	Ministry to the multitudes	
Sections	Action . . . reaction . . . confrontation	
Theme	Jesus is the Suffering Servant, who gives His life to save the world.	
Key Verse	10:45	
Christ in Mark	Jesus suffered and died so that salvation would be available to all people (10:45).	

“Hosanna!

**Blessed is he who
comes in the name
of the Lord!**

**Blessed is the
coming kingdom
of our father David!**

**Hosanna
in the highest!”**

Mark 11:9

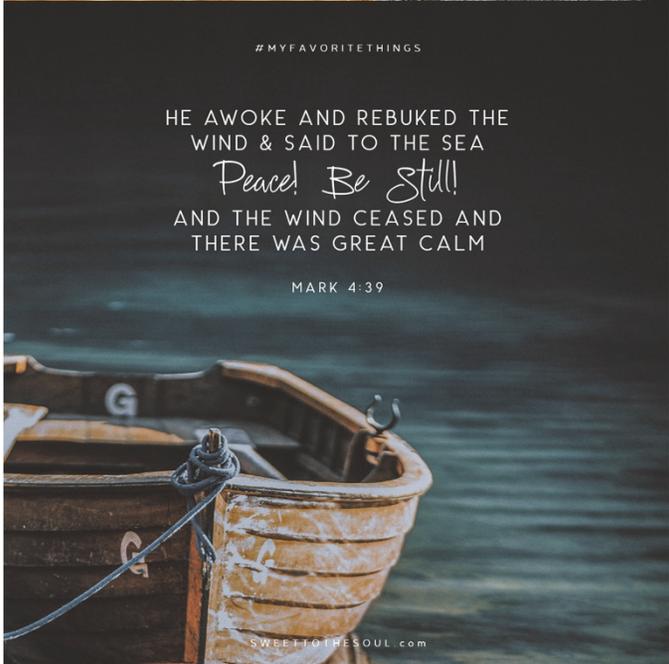


#MYFAVORITETHINGS

THOSE THAT WERE
SOWN ON THE
GOOD SOIL ARE
THE ONES WHO
Hear the Word
& *Accept it*
AND BEAR FRUIT.

MARK 4:20

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#MYFAVORITETHINGS

HE AWOKE AND REBUKED THE
WIND & SAID TO THE SEA
Peace! Be Still!
AND THE WIND CEASED AND
THERE WAS GREAT CALM

MARK 4:39

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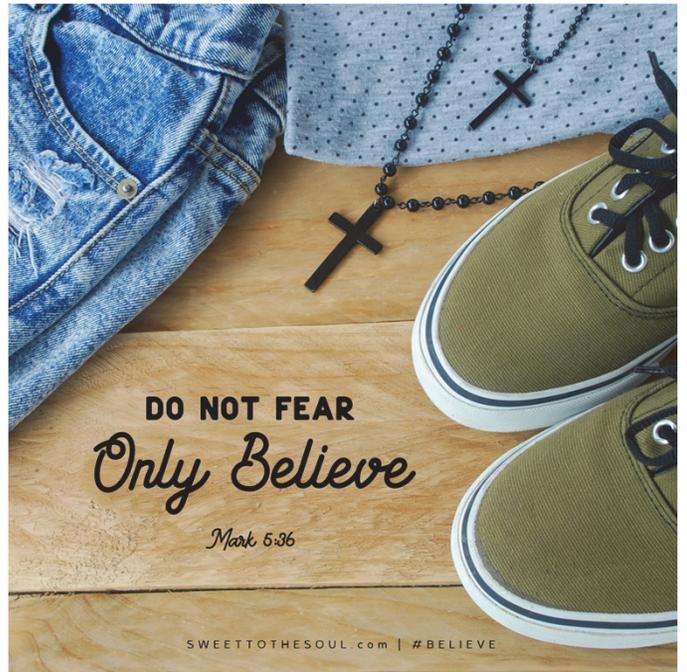


SWEET TO THE SOUL

Jesus looked
at them and said,
"With man it is
IMPOSSIBLE,
but not with God.

All Things
ARE POSSIBLE WITH GOD.

Mark 10:27



DO NOT FEAR
Only Believe

Mark 5:36

SWEETTOTHESOUL.COM | #BELIEVE

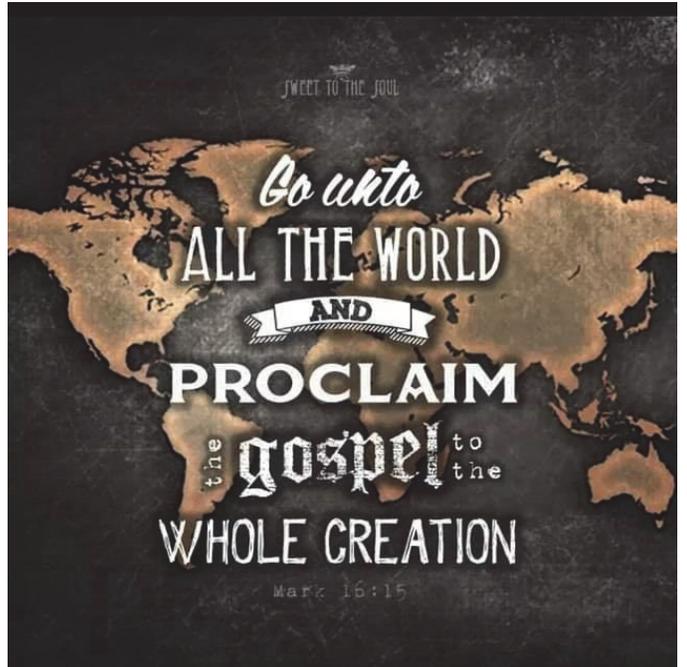
SWEETTOTHESOUL



MARK 5:19

AND HE DID NOT PERMIT HIM BUT SAID TO HIM,
*"Go home to your friends and tell them
how much the Lord has done for you, and
how he has had mercy on you."*

SWEETTOTHESOUL



SWEET TO THE SOUL

Go unto
ALL THE WORLD
AND
PROCLAIM
the *gospel* to the
WHOLE CREATION

Mark 16:15

Daily Scripture Plan

You can use the suggested schedule below for reading through the book of Mark with us or adjust to fit your personal calendar. The goal is not to read just to check boxes off a list, but to spend time with God regularly in His Word allowing Him to speak to each of us individually.

<u>MONTH</u>	<u>DATE</u>	<u>DAY</u>	<u>BOOK</u>	<u>CHAPTER</u>	<u>VERSES</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	2	Sun	Mark		Intro / Instructions
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	3	Mon	Mark	1	45
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	4	Tue	Mark	2	28
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	5	Wed	Mark	3	35
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	6	Thu	Mark	4	41
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	7	Fri	Mark	5	43
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	8	Sat	Mark		
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	9	Sun	Mark		
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	10	Mon	Mark	6	56
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	11	Tue	Mark	6	con't
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	12	Wed	Mark	7	37
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	13	Thu	Mark	8	38
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	14	Fri	Mark	9	50
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	15	Sat	Mark		
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	16	Sun	Mark		
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	17	Mon	Mark	10	52
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	18	Tue	Mark	11	33
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	19	Wed	Mark	12	44
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	20	Thu	Mark	13	37
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	21	Fri	Mark	14	72
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	22	Sat	Mark		
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	23	Sun	Mark		
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	24	Mon	Mark	14	con't
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	25	Tue	Mark	15	47
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	26	Wed	Mark	16	20
<input type="checkbox"/> APRIL	27	Thu	Mark		Wrap Up & Congrats

Study Questions – Chapter 1

How does John prepare the way for Jesus?

What different responses do you see to Jesus' authority (v 16-34)?

What is Jesus accomplishing through his authority?

How responsive are you to Jesus' authority? Ask the Holy Spirit to reveal any resistance in your heart.

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 2

What details do you notice about Jesus' interactions with the paralyzed man and the scribes (v. 1-12)?

What does Jesus do here that is unexpected or controversial? (v 13-28)?

In these stories, how is Jesus like new wine being poured into old and new wineskins?

As you look at your own life, are there any "old wineskins" you can let go of? Ask God to prepare you for new wineskins.

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 3

What is the significance of what Jesus appoints the twelve to do (v 14-15)?

What are the various voices of opposition to Jesus' ministry and what are their charges (v 20-35)?

How does Jesus' explanation of his authority (v 23-27) authenticate his ministry?

How is Jesus inviting you to be with him, and who is he sending you to?.

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 4

How might Jesus teaching a parable that requires a person explanation be like the farmer scattering seed on different soils (v 1-20)?

As you consider carefully what you read, what are the key details of the Kingdom parables? (v 21-34)

What themes come across in more than one parable?

How are you encouraged by this teaching on the Kingdom of God? Ask him to show you how to live today in faithful response.

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 5

How does Jesus address the fear people are feeling in each of these situations? (v 1-20)

What obstacles do Jairus and the woman face as they come to Jesus, and what motivates them to press forward? (vs 21-43)

What do Jesus' responses to these people in need demonstrate about his character?

What needs do you want to bring to Jesus? With bold humility, come to him and ask for healing and comfort.

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 6

How do the reputations of Jesus, John and Herod affect these stories? (vs 1-29)

What are the disciples' emotional highs and lows through this story? (v 30-56)

What is Jesus showing the disciples about being a shepherd for people?

How is Jesus inviting you to join in his shepherding? Ask him for what you will need to remain soft-hearted.

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 7

How does Jesus critique the Pharisee's teaching about what defiles us? (vs 1-23)

Given how Jesus defines hypocrisy in v 6-8, what would a life honoring God look like?

How do the challenging words and actions of Jesus serve those he encountered? (vs 24-37)

What do you find in your own heart as you reflect on vs 21-23? Admit to God what you've found and ask him to grow in you're a true holiness.

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 8

How is this story similar or different from the feeding of 5000 in Mark 6:30-44? (vs 1-26)

What do the disciples learn about Jesus's path? (v 27-38)

Given these hard words, what makes it worth it for a disciple to follow Jesus?

Now halfway through Mark, what have you learned about the gospel of Jesus?

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 9

Where do you see evidence of power in these two stories? (vs 1-29)

What do the disciples not yet understand about the power of the Kingdom of God?

What unexpected things does Jesus say about greatness and lameness? (v 30-50)

Where has your pursuit of worldly greatness left you vulnerable to sin? Ask God instead for an opportunity today to serve others.

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 10

How does Jesus view marriage? (v 1-12)

What is left behind and what is received? (vs 13-31)

How is Jesus acting out his purpose “not to be served, but to serve” in his responses to both requests?
(vs 32-52)

What is the hardest thing for you to give up to follow Jesus? Ask your heavenly to make it possible for you to do so.

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter II

Compare the first and second times Jesus and his disciples enter Jerusalem and the Temple. (vs 1-25)

How does Jesus' curse of the fig tree relate to his interactions in the temple?

How did the chief priests and scribes react to Jesus actions in the temple?

Jesus wanted his house to be a house of prayer for all nations, How have you lived out that value and where have your customs obstructed it?

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 12

What is Jesus saying to the Pharisees through the parable? (vs 1-12)

Who is praised and who is rebuked? (vs 13-44)

How are all the people we see here doing in terms of keeping the two greatest commandments?

Very practically, how can you love God and love your neighbor this week?

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 13

What does Jesus instruct his disciples to do? (vs 1-23)

How do you see God's care for his people, even amid this terrible prediction?

What does Jesus tell his disciples to watch for? (vs 24-37)

Rather than idly speculating on his timing, consider what God would have you and your community do while you alertly watch for his coming.

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 14

What are all the different ways we see people responding to Jesus? (vs 1-26)

What might their responses reveal about their views of Jesus and of themselves?

Imagine all that Jesus must be feeling as you make your way through this part of the story? (vs 27-52)

How does Jesus find strength during great difficulty?

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 14

What might it mean for you to keep watch with Jesus in Gethsemane today?

What are all the ways Jesus is being disowned? (vs 53-72)

What do you think is going on for Peter? (that leads him to deny Jesus?)

When is it difficult for you to identify as a Christian? Bring the pressures you face to God and ask for faith, wisdom, and courage to speak and act as a witness of Jesus.

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 15

Why do you think Jesus chose to be powerless here? (vs 1-21)

How do the different people respond to Jesus and his crucifixion? (vs 22-41)

How does the centurion come to call Jesus the Son of God?

What is your response today as you consider the death of Jesus?

Additional Questions

Study Questions – Chapter 16

Who honors the body of Jesus and how do they do it?

What might the women be experiencing as they approach the tomb, meet the young man and leave with the news?

He is risen! Jesus is not found in a tomb. What feelings does that invoke in you?

What does it mean for your life from here?

Additional Questions
