



Mark Sermon Series
To Be Used: Session 1: Calls
Potential Sermon Title: Start with the Gospel
Passage: Mark 1:1

Connection to Mark 1

Mark introduces Jesus Christ by pointing us to the reason for insisting that we should follow Him. Jesus deserves our undivided attention because He's the heart of the gospel.

Introduction/Opening

Getting off to a good start matters to us when we're baking a cake, building a house, or writing a letter. It's most important when we're anchoring our days.

Mark took the people who read his Gospel account back to the start. He shared the reason that believers had come to experience the new life they embraced, the forgiveness of sins they celebrated, and the honor of being God's children they enjoyed. Matthew and Luke started with the story of Jesus' birth. John started with an affirmation about Jesus' incarnation. But Mark started with the reason Jesus mattered—the gospel.

We'll start there too! Starting there allows us to anchor our lives in Christ, refresh our joy in Him, and renew our devotion to Him.

Outline

1. Mark starts with the message of the gospel (1a)
 - a) The gospel message is about good news.
 - The word "gospel" means "good news."
 - The word "gospel" appears throughout Mark's Gospel (1:1,14,15; 8:35; 10:29; 13:10; 14:9; 16:15).
 - The Bible declares the gospel message (Gen. 3:15; Jer. 31:31)
 - God sent John the Baptist to direct people to the gospel message (Mark 1:2-8).
 - b) The good news is about God's gift of salvation.
 - We can be forgiven.
 - We can be born again.
 - We can be God's children.
 - We can have eternal life.
 - We can enjoy an intimate relationship with God.
 - We can grow in our walk with Him.
 - We can look forward to heaven.

2. Mark starts with the heart of the gospel (1b)

a) The heart of the gospel is Jesus Christ.

The name “Jesus” means “God saves.”

The title “Christ” means “Messiah” or “God’s anointed One” (Daniel 9:25-26).

The name “Jesus Christ” confirms that He is both human and God.

b) Jesus Christ is the Son of God.

God declared His relationship with His Son at His baptism (Mark 1:9-11).

Satan tempted God’s Son in the wilderness (Mark 1:12-13).

God’s Son proclaimed His Father’s gospel message (Mark 1:14-15).

God’s Son invited people to follow Him (Mark 1:16-20).

God’s Son lived, died, and rose from the grave for our salvation.

God’s Son lives on and reigns forever.

God’s Son will return one day.

God’s Son wants you to give your life to Him.

Conclusion

Mark started by pointing to the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. The Lord wants you to start there too. Start by turning to Jesus and receiving His gift of salvation. If you’re a Christian who has stepped away from a growing walk with Christ, start fresh by renewing your devotion to Him alone. Perhaps the Lord has nudged you about the people in your life who have not heard the gospel message. Share the good news about Christ with them so they will have an opportunity to give their lives to Him too.

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