

All Marked Up
A Course on the Gospel of Mark
Focused on Discipleship, Compassion, and the Reign of God
January 12, 2021

A quick look back—Reminders from what we've covered so far in Mark

- *Mark 1:1-3:35* (“Immediately”)
 - There is a sense of immediacy in Jesus’ ministry
 - Jesus heralds the approach of **the reign of God** and our need to repent and believe the good news
 - Jesus calls his **disciples**
 - Jesus performs healing deeds of power [**compassion**]
 - The people view Jesus as one having authority
 - Jesus is in conflict with the religious authorities who question the source of Jesus’ authority
- *Mark 4:1-5:43* (“Teaching in Word and Deed”)
 - Jesus teaches in parables
 - These are verbal teachings about **the reign of God**
 - Simply tells crowds, but then explains to **disciples**
 - Meant to be odd and thought provoking
 - Jesus shows his authority over nature with the calming of the stormy waters—another physical demonstration of the power of **the reign of God**. Unfortunately, the **disciples** do not come off well in this episode—and it won’t be the last time!
 - Jesus continues to perform healing deeds of power [**compassion**]
 - Demoniac (Legion)
 - Hemorrhaging woman and Jairus’ daughter

Mark 6:1-8:21
“Empire of the Son”

- A summary of *Mark 6:1-8:21* (“Empire of the Son”)
 - Though they start strong in Mark 6:6a-13, the disciples are starting to show signs of not really getting what Jesus is up to, especially with regard to the
 - feedings of the 5,000 (6:30-44) and 4,000 (8:1-10)
 - the crossings of the Sea of Galilee (6:45-52, 8:10, 16-21)

- The reign of God (Empire of the Son) is placed in stark contrast with the Roman Empire (and its minions), especially in the case of the back to back stories that contrast Herod's banquet (6:14-29) and Jesus' banquet (6:30-44)
- Compassion is at the heart of the Empire of the Son
 - both feedings of the multitudes (6:34 and 8:2)
 - the Syrophenician woman (7:24-30)
 - people who bring those in need of healing to Jesus (6:53-56 and 7:31-37)
- Food ties together the two feedings, a dispute with the religious authorities (7:1-23), the Syrophenician woman (7:24-30), warnings against the Pharisees and Herod (8:14-15), and the disciples' lack of understanding (8:16-21)
- For next Tuesday, please come prepared to talk about how aspects of discipleship, compassion, and the reign of God (as well as other themes that have surfaced in our study, such as Jesus' authority) play out in the following sections:

Mark 6:1-6—The Rejection of Jesus by His Hometown

Mark 6:7-13—The Mission of the 12 Disciples

Mark 6:14-29—The Death of John the Baptist

Mark 6:30-44—The Feeding of the 5,000

Mark 6:45-52—Jesus Walks on Water

Mark 6:53-56—Further Healings

Mark 7:1-23—**5th Run-in** with Religious Authorities: over Food Purity

Mark 7:24-30—The Faith of the Syrophenician Woman

Mark 7:31-37—Jesus Heals a Deaf Man

Mark 8:1-10—The Feeding of the 4,000

Mark 8:11-13—**6th Run-in** with Religious Authorities: over Demand for Signs

Mark 8:14-21—Disciples Still Not Getting It