

JESUS

THE GOSPEL OF MARK / SMALL GROUP GUIDE

IS



KING

The background of the page is a sunset sky with scattered, golden clouds. On the left side, there is a silhouette of a tree with its reflection in the water below. The text is centered on the right side of the page.

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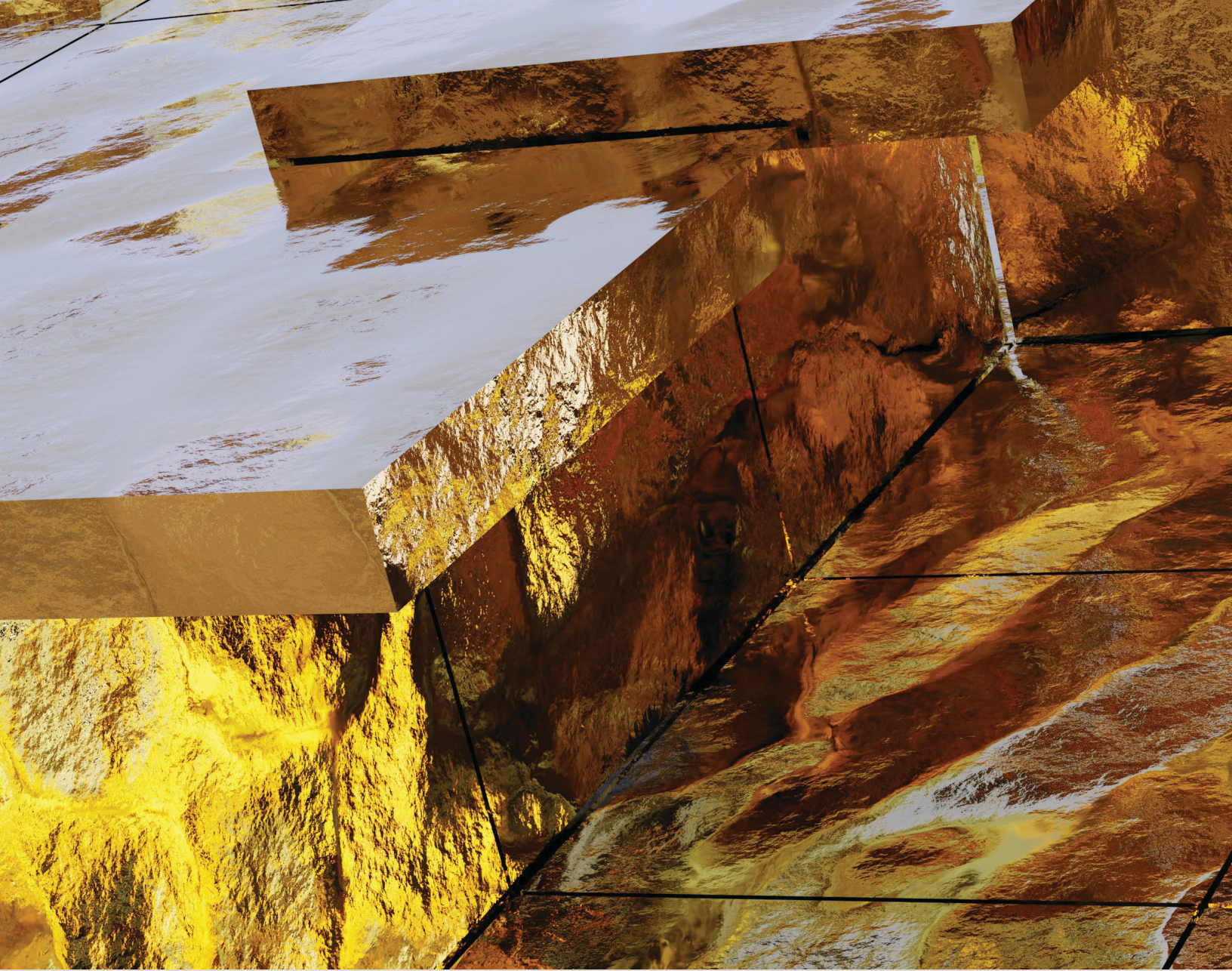
WEEK 7 Jesus, The King Who Gave It All

WELCOME

Welcome to Jesus is King — a seven-week small group journey through the Gospel of Mark, the most fast-paced and action-packed account of Jesus' life in all of Scripture. Mark cuts straight to the heart of who Jesus is: not just a great teacher or moral example, but the Son of God, the long-awaited King who came to serve, to suffer, and to save. Over the course of seven weeks, your group will move through Mark's Gospel together, guided by weekly teaching videos that unpack the text, spark meaningful conversation, and help connect the ancient words of Scripture to your everyday life.

Each week also includes this study guide, which contains discussion questions to help your group go deeper, practical application to help you live out what you're learning, and a daily reading plan that will take you through the entire Gospel of Mark over the course of the study. By the end of these seven weeks, our hope is simple: that you would not just learn about Jesus but truly encounter him — and walk away more convinced than ever that Jesus Is King.

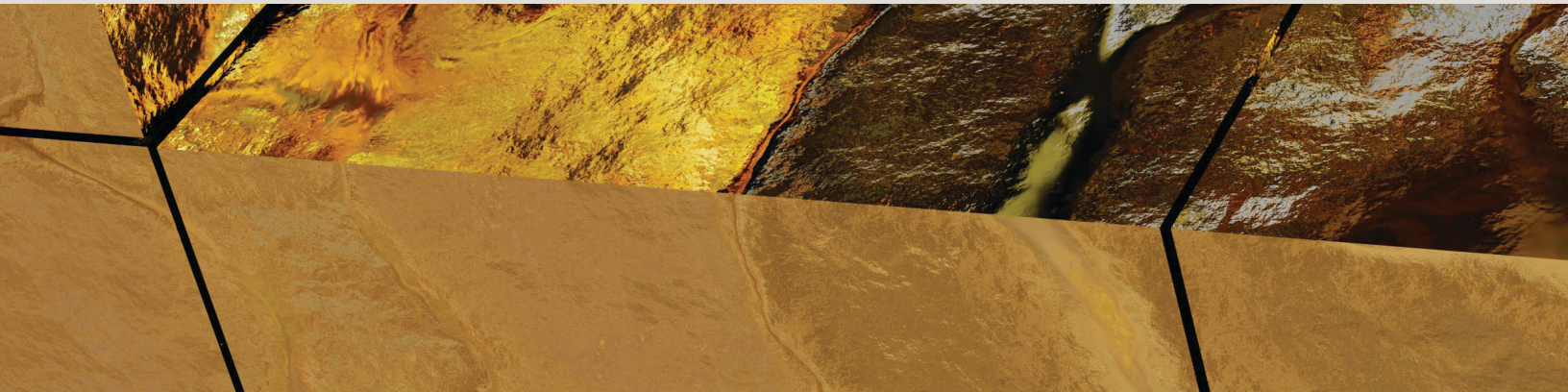




SESSION ONE



GUIDE for the GROUP



WELCOME & ICEBREAKER

Introduce yourself and then go around the room and ask everyone to share their name and a little about themselves. Pray and invite the Holy Spirit to today's session.

VIDEO

In this week's video, we open the Gospel of Mark and explore how Jesus arrived on the scene not as a mere teacher but as the fulfillment of prophecy and the long-awaited King of an everlasting Kingdom. (QR code to video)

DISCUSSION

1. What is the significance of Jesus being baptized before beginning His public ministry? What does this moment reveal about His identity and mission?

2. Today's lesson asked: "Is Jesus simply a teacher whose words you admire, or is He the King of your life?" How would you honestly answer this question? What is the difference between admiration and obedience in your daily life?

3. We were challenged with this question: "What area of your life needs repentance but has been met with a 'someday' or a 'not in this season'?" Without sharing specifics if it's too personal, how do we recognize when we're delaying obedience?

4. Mark 1:15 says "*The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God is at hand.*" How should the reality that God's Kingdom is "at hand" change the way we live this week?

CLOSING PRAYER

"Father, thank you for Jesus. Give us hearts that are quick to repent when we grieve you. Help us to surrender areas where we have treated Jesus as teacher rather than King. Holy Spirit teach us how to respond to God's call in our lives."

Encourage everyone to engage with this week's practical applications and stay consistent in the daily Bible Reading Plan.

HOMEWORK

See the **HOMEWORK & BIBLE READING PLAN** section for this week's assignment.

SESSION ONE

PARTICIPANT'S WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **The Gospel of Mark was written with urgency** - Mark immediately focuses on Jesus' public ministry, emphasizing action and movement rather than genealogy or birth narratives.
- **Jesus is the fulfillment of prophecy** - John the Baptist prepared the way, fulfilling Isaiah 40:3, confirming that the promised Messiah had arrived.
- **Two Central Themes:**
 - o **The Identity of Jesus:** He is not merely a teacher but the King who brings His Kingdom
 - o **The Urgency of Repentance:** The time is fulfilled; the Kingdom is at hand; we must respond
- **Repentance is a lifestyle, not a one-time event** - It requires ongoing surrender and obedience to Jesus as King.

NOTES:

HOMEWORK

- Read and apply Practical Applications from this week's lesson
- Journal your reflections from this week's lesson
- Read daily reading plan for the Gospel of Mark

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Daily Repentance Check: Each morning this week, ask God to reveal one area that needs repentance. Journal about it and pray through it.

Identity Reflection: Write down areas where you treat Jesus as a teacher versus as King. Commit one area to His lordship.

Urgency Assessment: Identify one thing God has been asking you to do that you've delayed. Take one concrete step toward obedience this week.

JOURNAL:

Is there an area of your life where you have responded to God's call with 'someday' or 'not in this season' rather than urgent obedience? Journal what has been preventing immediate response and write a prayer of surrender and repentance.

BIBLE READING PLAN

WEEK ONE

DAY 1

Reading: Mark 1:1–15 | Prologue + Jesus' baptism + temptation + first proclamation

Reflection: What does this opening reveal about who Jesus is?

REFLECTION:

The background of the entire page is a photograph of an ornate, gilded ceiling with intricate scrollwork and decorative elements in gold leaf. The lighting is warm, highlighting the texture and detail of the architecture.

DAY 2

Reading: Mark 1:16–20 | Calling of the first disciples

Reflection: What is one “net” (attachment, comfort, distraction) I need to let go of to follow Jesus more fully?

REFLECTION:

DAY 3

Reading: Mark 1:21–28 | Teaching in Capernaum + healing of the demon-possessed man

Reflection: What area of your life have you yet to fully place under the authority of Jesus—and what is holding you back from doing so?

REFLECTION:

DAY 4

Reading: Mark 1:29–39 | Healing Peter’s mother-in-law + many healed + Jesus prays

Reflection: What would it look like for me to prioritize prayer/solitude the way Jesus did?

REFLECTION:

DAY 5

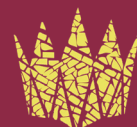
Reading: Mark 1:40–45 | Healing of the man with leprosy

Reflection: How does Jesus’ compassion challenge the way I respond to messy people or messy situations?

REFLECTION:



SESSION TWO



GUIDE for the GROUP

WELCOME

Welcome everyone and discuss their engagement with homework this week. Include the following questions:

- What stood out to you in this week's homework?
- Have the members share a scripture that resonated with them from their Bible reading this week.

ICEBREAKER

Share about a time you tried something completely new. What made you say "yes"? What fears or doubts did you have?

VIDEO

In this week's video we will explore what it truly means to follow Jesus — examining how the first disciples responded immediately to His call and what their example teaches us about obedience, trust, and embracing the new mission God has for each of us. *(QR to video)*

DISCUSSION

1. Today's lesson mentioned our tendency to delay obedience until things feel convenient or clear. Can you identify an area in your life where you've been delaying your response to God? What is holding you back?
2. Jesus told the fishermen He would make them "fishers of men." How did their previous skills and experiences prepare them for their new mission?
3. What "ordinary" skills, experiences, or roles has God given you that He might want to redeem and redirect for His purposes? (Consider your job, hobbies, past experiences, even painful seasons)
4. Following Jesus meant leaving behind the familiar and comfortable. What might Jesus be asking you to leave behind in order to fully follow Him?

CLOSING PRAYER

"Lord Jesus, You called ordinary fishermen to an extraordinary mission. You're still calling today. Give us the faith to respond immediately, the courage to leave behind what holds us back, and the trust to follow You even when we can't see the entire path ahead. Use our ordinary lives for Your extraordinary purposes. In Jesus' name, Amen."

HOMEWORK

See the **HOMEWORK & BIBLE READING PLAN** section for this week's assignment.

SESSION TWO

PARTICIPANT'S WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Following Jesus requires an immediate response** — Obedience shouldn't wait for perfect clarity or convenience
- **Following Jesus requires taking on a new mission** — God redeems our ordinary experiences and skills for His greater purposes
- **Trust precedes clarity** — We don't need a complete roadmap; we need to trust the One who calls us
- **The question isn't "Do I understand everything?" but "Will I respond when Jesus calls?"**

NOTES:

HOMEWORK

- Read and apply Practical Applications from this week's lesson
- Journal your reflections from this week's lesson
- Read daily reading plan for the Gospel of Mark

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

The 24-Hour Yes: Identify one thing you believe God has been prompting you to do (reconcile with someone, serve in a specific way, change a habit, start a spiritual discipline). Commit to taking one concrete step toward obedience within 24 hours

Skills Inventory: Make a list of your skills, experiences, and resources. Pray and ask God: "How can You use these for Your kingdom purposes?" Take one action this week to offer something from your list in service to others

Release Control: Identify one area where you've been waiting for perfect clarity before obeying God. Write down your fears and questions about this area. Pray a prayer of surrender, releasing control and choosing to trust God's character over your need for certainty. Take one step of obedience, even if small.

JOURNAL:

How would my life look different if I responded to God's promptings immediately rather than waiting for perfect conditions?

BIBLE READING PLAN

WEEK TWO

DAY 1

Reading: Mark 2:1–12 | Healing the paralytic + forgiveness of sins

Reflection: What area of my life most needs Jesus' forgiveness and healing?

REFLECTION:

DAY 2

Reading: Mark 2:13–22 | Calling of Levi + eating with sinners + question about fasting

Reflection: Where might Jesus be calling me into something new that won't fit my old patterns?

REFLECTION:

DAY 3

Reading: Mark 2:23–3:6 | Lord of the Sabbath + healing on the Sabbath

Reflection: Do I treat spiritual rhythms (rest, worship, obedience) as relationship or as rules—and how can I tell?

REFLECTION:

DAY 4

Reading: Mark 3:7–19 | Crowds at the lake + appointing the Twelve

Reflection: What distractions or “crowds” compete with my time and attention with Jesus?

REFLECTION:

DAY 5

Reading: Mark 3:20–35 | Accusation + Jesus’ true family

Reflection: What does it mean for me to be part of Jesus’ family this week in a practical way?

REFLECTION:



SESSION THREE



GUIDE for the GROUP

WELCOME

Welcome everyone and discuss their engagement with homework this week. Include the following questions:

- What stood out to you in this week's homework?
- Have the members share a scripture that resonated with them from their Bible reading this week.

ICEBREAKER

When you think of the word "authority," what comes to mind? Is it positive or negative? Share a time when you experienced authority used well or poorly.

VIDEO

In this week's video, we explore the authority of Jesus — not simply as a title He holds, but as a living, active power over sin, sickness, fear, and darkness — as we walk through three powerful stories in Mark that reveal a King who is both fully capable and fully willing to restore. (QR code to video)

DISCUSSION

1. In the story of the paralytic man in Mark 2:1–12, Jesus forgave sins before healing the body. Why do you think Jesus prioritized the spiritual over the physical? What does this teach us about what matters most?
2. When Jesus calmed the storm in Mark 4:35–41, Jesus didn't rebuke the disciples' fear until AFTER removing the danger. What does this tell us about God's compassion in our fearful moments?
3. In Mark 5:1–20, Jesus told the healed man to stay in his city and tell what God had done. Who in your sphere of influence needs to hear your testimony of what Jesus has done for you?
4. Today's message noted that "strength at best can control, but the authority of God sets one free." Where are you trying to control something in your own strength instead of surrendering to God's authority?

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, thank you for your authority and your compassion. Help us trust you with areas in our lives we're afraid to bring to you. Holy Spirit, give us boldness to share what God has done in our lives. Amen

HOMEWORK

See the **HOMEWORK & BIBLE READING PLAN** section for this week's assignment.

HOMEWORK

- Read and apply Practical Applications from this week's lesson
- Journal your reflections from this week's lesson
- Read daily reading plan for the Gospel of Mark

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Declare His Authority: When fear or anxiety rises, speak Mark 4:35 over your situation: *“Let us go to the other side.”* Remind yourself that Jesus has already declared the outcome.

Share Your Testimony: Like the healed man in Mark 5, tell at least one person this week what Jesus has done for you.

Surrender One Thing: Identify one area where you've been trying to maintain control. Write it down and pray a prayer of surrender, acknowledging Jesus' authority over it.

JOURNAL:

In what area of your life do you need to see Jesus as authority rather than running away from His authority.

BIBLE READING PLAN

WEEK THREE

DAY 1

Reading: Mark 4:1–20 | Parable of the sower + the soils explained

Reflection: Which “soil” best describes my heart today, and what one step would make the Word of God flourish in my heart.

REFLECTION:

DAY 2

Reading: Mark 4:21–34 | Lamp on a stand + growing seed + mustard seed

Reflection: What small, faithful action could God use to grow something bigger than I can see?

REFLECTION:

DAY 3

Reading: Mark 4:35–41 | Jesus calms the storm

Reflection: In what area am I panicking instead of trusting Jesus is present in the boat?

REFLECTION:

DAY 4

Reading: Mark 5:1–20 | Healing of the demon-possessed man

Reflection: What “chains” (lies, habits, shame) do I need to bring to Jesus for freedom?

REFLECTION:

DAY 5

Reading: Mark 5:21–43 | Jairus’s daughter + healing of the bleeding woman

Reflection: Is there a situation in your life where fear or shame has kept you from bringing your deepest need to Jesus — and what would it take for you to reach out to Him in faith today?

REFLECTION:



SESSION FOUR



GUIDE for the GROUP



WELCOME

Welcome everyone and discuss their engagement with homework this week. Include the following questions:

- What stood out to you in this week's homework?
- Have the members share a scripture that resonated with them from their Bible reading this week.

ICEBREAKER

If someone who didn't know you watched your life for a week, what would they say is most important to you? What "rules" your decisions and priorities?

VIDEO

In this week's video, we reach a pivotal moment in Mark's Gospel as Jesus asks the question that changes everything: "Who do you say that I am?" — and what it truly means to answer with our lives, not just our words. (*QR code to video*)

DISCUSSION

1. Many people can answer correctly "Jesus is the Messiah" as a theological fact. What's the difference between knowing this intellectually and having it revealed to your heart by God?
2. Jesus used the illustration of a seed that must die to produce fruit (John 12:24). What does this look like practically in your life right now? What might God be asking you to "let die" so new life can come?
3. Today's lesson reminded us that "we are not our own" (1 Corinthians 6:19-20). How does viewing your time, gifts, relationships, and finances as belonging to God change the way you make decisions?
4. What does it look like practically to yield "every single day" to the Spirit of God and say, "Lord, this day is yours. I am yours"?

CLOSING PRAYER

"Jesus, thank you for revealing yourself to us. Help us move from confession to daily surrender. Give us grace to die to self and find true life in You. Empower us through the Holy Spirit to live with You as King."

HOMEWORK

See the HOMEWORK & BIBLE READING PLAN section for this week's assignment.

SESSION FOUR

PARTICIPANT'S WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Revelation is just the beginning** – Knowing who Jesus is must lead to following Him as Lord
- **There's a difference between Savior and King** – Many accept Jesus for salvation but don't surrender daily to His Lordship
- **The cross is the way to life** – Dying to self is not the end but the path to true abundant life
- **Christ's Lordship requires three things:** Recognition of His ownership - Full submission to His authority - Unquestioning obedience
- **We cannot do this alone** – The Holy Spirit empowers us to live as Jesus is King of our lives

NOTES:

HOMEWORK

- Read and apply Practical Applications from this week's lesson
- Journal your answers on questions from this week's lesson
- Read daily reading plan for the Gospel of Mark

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Morning Surrender: Each morning this week, before checking your phone or starting your day, pray: "Lord, this day is yours. I am yours. Show me where I need to surrender today."

Lordship Audit: Take 30 minutes this week to prayerfully examine these areas: time, money, relationships, career, entertainment, and future plans. Ask God to reveal any area where you're still holding on to control.

Obedience Challenge: Identify one specific thing God has been asking you to do that you've been avoiding or delaying. Take one concrete step toward obedience this week.

JOURNAL:

Spend a few moments in silence before God and answer the question Jesus asked the disciples: "Who do YOU say that I am?"

Then consider: Is your answer visible in how you live every day?

BIBLE READING PLAN

WEEK FOUR

DAY 1

Reading: Mark 6:1–29 | Rejected at Nazareth + sending out the Twelve + death of John the Baptist

Reflection: Where do I need courage to obey even when I'm misunderstood or resisted?

REFLECTION:

DAY 2

Reading: Mark 6:30–56 | Feeding the five thousand + walking on water + healings at Gennesaret

Reflection: What do I have in my hands that Jesus could multiply if I offer it?

REFLECTION:

DAY 3

Reading: Mark 7:1–23 | Clean and unclean + what defiles a person

Reflection: What's one heart issue (not behavior) that Jesus is putting His finger on today?

REFLECTION:

DAY 4

Reading: Mark 7:24–37 | Syrophenician woman’s faith + healing of deaf and mute man

Reflection: What does persistent faith look like for me in one situation I’ve been tempted to give up on?

REFLECTION:

DAY 5

Reading: Mark 8:1–38 | Feeding the four thousand + Peter’s confession + cost of discipleship

Reflection: What does “take up your cross” mean for me right now—one specific act of surrender?

REFLECTION:



SESSION FIVE

GUIDE for the GROUP



WELCOME

Welcome everyone and discuss their engagement with homework this week. Include the following questions:

- What stood out to you in this week's homework?
- Have the members share a scripture that resonated with them from their Bible reading this week.

ICEBREAKER

Who is someone in your life who exemplified servant leadership? What made them stand out to you?

VIDEO

In this week's video, we discover that true greatness in God's Kingdom looks nothing like the world's version — and everything like a servant. (QR code to video)

DISCUSSION

1. Where have you measured greatness by position, recognition, or influence—either in yourself or others? How does this differ from Jesus's definition?
2. The disciples argued about who was greatest even while walking with Jesus. Why do you think comparison lives so quietly in our hearts? What triggers it in your life?
3. Jesus used a child—someone with no status or power—to teach about greatness. What does this tell us about who God values and how He sees leadership?
4. Servant leadership means “leading with humility, not ego” and “using influence to lift others, not yourself.” Share an example of when someone led you this way. How did it impact you?

CLOSING PRAYER

Lord, forgive us from comparison and ego. Reveal to us the specific people you have placed in your lives to serve. Give us the courage to serve where it costs and give us hearts that reflect your servant leadership.

HOMEWORK

See the HOMEWORK & BIBLE READING PLAN section for this week's assignment.

SESSION FIVE

PARTICIPANT'S WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- The world measures greatness by **position, recognition, and influence**; God measures it by **humility and service**.
- **Jesus redefined leadership**: “The way up is down.” True Kingdom leaders serve rather than seek to be served.
- **Servant leadership is not weakness**—it’s strength with humility. It maintains standards while elevating others.
- **Jesus is our ultimate example**. He chose a towel instead of a throne, a cross instead of a crown.
- **Kingdom influence is built in quiet moments**, not highlight reels.

NOTES:

HOMEWORK

- Read and apply Practical Applications from this week's lesson
- Journal your answers on questions from this week's lesson
- Meditate this week on the lesson's key verse

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Choose ONE of the following areas and commit to one specific act of servant leadership this week:

At Home: Serve your family in a way that costs you time or comfort (take on a task usually done by someone else, serve without being asked)

At Church: Volunteer in an area that needs help (kids, youth, greeting, setup/teardown). Encourage someone who serves faithfully behind the scenes

At Work: Mentor someone, help a colleague, or improve the environment for others, Lead by example rather than command

In Your Community: Serve a neighbor, volunteer in your community, or join a local board/organization. Be available when the Holy Spirit prompts you to pray for or help someone

JOURNAL:

Who is the 'one' God has placed in your life lane right now that you have overlooked, and what practical step can you take this week to serve them sacrificially?

BIBLE READING PLAN

WEEK FIVE

DAY 1

Reading: Mark 9:1–29 | Transfiguration + healing of the demon-possessed boy

Reflection: What is my honest “help my unbelief” prayer today?

REFLECTION:

DAY 2

Reading: Mark 9:30–50 | Second passion prediction + true greatness + causes of sin

Reflection: Where am I chasing greatness, and what would humility look like instead?

REFLECTION:

DAY 3

Reading: Mark 10:1–16 | Teaching on divorce + blessing the children

Reflection: Where do I need to come to Jesus with childlike trust rather than control?

REFLECTION:

DAY 4

Reading: Mark 10:17–31 | Rich young ruler + danger of wealth + rewards of following Jesus

Reflection: What is hardest for me to surrender—and what might it reveal about what I truly treasure?

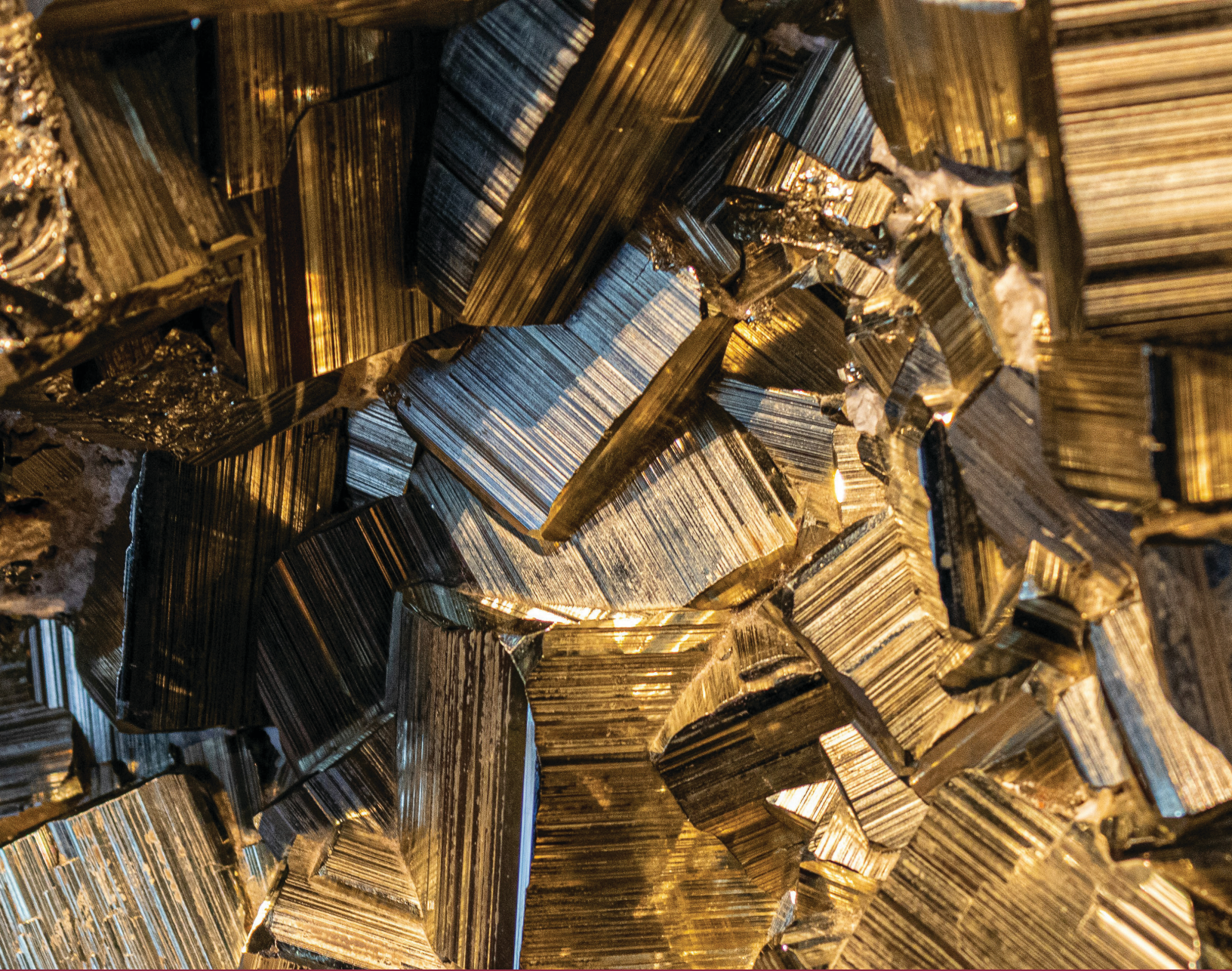
REFLECTION:

DAY 5

Reading: Mark 10:32–52 | Third passion prediction + James and John's request + blind Bartimaeus

Reflection: What am I asking Jesus for, and is it shaped more by comfort or by following Him?

REFLECTION:



SESSION SIX

GUIDE for the GROUP



WELCOME

Welcome everyone and discuss their engagement with homework this week. Include the following questions:

- What stood out to you in this week's homework?
- Have the members share a scripture that resonated with them from their Bible reading this week.

ICEBREAKER

Share a time when you faced a decision and had to discern God's will. What helped you navigate that situation?

VIDEO

In this week's video, we see how Jesus navigated political traps, theological challenges, and end-times uncertainty in Mark 11–13—and what it looks like for us to have a faith that truly discerns. *(QR code to video)*

DISCUSSION

1. Why do you think Jesus refused to answer the religious leaders' question about His authority? What does this teach us about discernment in conversations?
2. Have you ever found yourself in a debate where the other person didn't share your fundamental faith foundation? How did you handle it? What would you do differently now?
3. The Sadducees presented a theological problem, and Jesus corrected their thinking with Scripture. What areas of your thinking need to be more aligned with biblical truth rather than cultural assumptions?
4. Jesus said, "Do not worry beforehand about what to say... it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit." How does this promise encourage you when facing opposition or difficult conversations?

CLOSING PRAYER

"Lord, thank you for your Word that renews our mind and transforms our thinking. Give us discernment to know when to engage and when to step back from conversations. Give us courage to stand firm even in the face of opposition for following Christ. Holy Spirit guide our conversations where we must give witness of who Jesus is and what He has done."

HOMEWORK

See the HOMEWORK & BIBLE READING PLAN section for this week's assignment.

SESSION SIX

PARTICIPANT'S WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Faith is the starting point** - We must operate FROM faith, not work toward it
- **Not every battle is for you** - Discernment means knowing when not to engage
- **Flattery can mask hostility** - Just because something seems inviting doesn't mean it's friendly
- **Christ is an activist for His Kingdom alone** - not for political or worldly agendas
- **Biblical thinking requires transformation** - through Scripture, submission, and Spirit-dependence
- **Standing firm has a cost** - but the end is worth it

NOTES:

HOMEWORK

- Read and apply Practical Applications from this week's lesson
- Journal your answers on questions from this week's lesson
- Read daily reading plan for the Gospel of Mark

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

Discernment Audit: Evaluate your current conversations and conflicts. Identify one situation where you need to disengage because there's no shared foundation of faith. Identify one where God is calling you to engage with wisdom and courage.

Mind Renewal Plan: Choose one area where your thinking doesn't align with Scripture. Commit to reading and meditating on relevant Bible passages daily this week. Share your chosen area with the group for accountability.

Submission Check: Identify one area where you admire Jesus' teaching but haven't fully submitted to His lordship. What specific step will you take this week to move from agreement to obedience?

Living Sacrifice: Each morning this week, pray Romans 12:1-2 and consciously offer your day to God as a living sacrifice. Journal about how this changes your perspective and decisions.

JOURNAL:

In what area do I most need transformation: my worldview, my understanding of Scripture, or my submission to Christ?

BIBLE READING PLAN

WEEK SIX

DAY 1

Reading: Mark 11:1–19 | Triumphal entry + temple cleansing

Reflection: What area of my life needs to be “cleansed” so worship becomes real again?

REFLECTION:



DAY 2

Reading: Mark 11:20–33 | Faith, prayer, forgiveness + authority questioned

Reflection: Is there anyone I need to forgive so my prayers and faith can stay clear?

REFLECTION:

DAY 3

Reading: Mark 12:1–17 | Tenants + “Give to Caesar / give to God”

Reflection: What belongs to God in my life that I’ve been holding back?

REFLECTION:



DAY 4

Reading: Mark 12:18–44 | Greatest commandment + widow’s offering

Reflection: What would it look like to love God with all of me—one specific, measurable step?

REFLECTION:

DAY 5

Reading: Mark 13:1–37 | Watchfulness and endurance

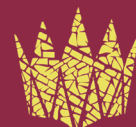
Reflection: Where might you be spiritually asleep right now, and how is Jesus inviting you to stay awake and keep watch?

REFLECTION:



SESSION SEVEN

GUIDE for the GROUP



WELCOME

Welcome everyone and discuss their engagement with homework this week. Include the following questions:

- What stood out to you in this week's homework?
- Have the members share a scripture that resonated with them from their Bible reading this week.

ICEBREAKER

What is one story from your past that you love to tell and retell? Why does it remain meaningful to you?

VIDEO

In this week's video, we reach the climax of the Gospel of Mark — and we're challenged to never lose sight of the awe and wonder of what Jesus our King gave for us. (QR code to video)

DISCUSSION

1. We learned that the Jewish people expected a conquering king, but Jesus came as a Servant King. Why was this so unexpected? What does this tell us about God's ways versus our expectations?
2. Read Mark 10:45 together. What does it mean that Jesus came "to give his life as a ransom for many"? Who was the ransom paid to, and what were we ransomed from?
3. Today's lesson emphasized the importance of consistently reading and studying Scripture to remember who Jesus is and what He's done. What practices help you stay connected to God's Word? What obstacles make this difficult?
4. When we remember, reflect, and respond, "we cannot help but want to share and show the good news." Do you find this to be true in your experience? Why or why not?

CLOSING PRAYER

"Jesus, thank you for laying down your life for us and taking on our sin to pay a ransom we can never pay. Help us to grow in remembering, reflecting on, and responding to the good news of the Gospel and to be a witness to those who need to hear about you."

HOMEWORK

See the HOMEWORK & BIBLE READING PLAN section for this week's assignment

SESSION SEVEN

PARTICIPANT'S WEEKLY STUDY GUIDE

KEY TAKEAWAYS

- **Jesus is the Servant King** - He came not to conquer through force, but to serve and give His life as a ransom for many (Mark 10:45)
- **The gospel is life-changing and life-giving** - In Christ we are made new, forgiven, declared righteous, and given hope of eternal life
- **We can lose sight of the gospel's wonder** - Familiarity can cause the story to fade into the background of our lives
- **Three ways to keep the gospel alive in our hearts:**
 - o Remember the story of our Servant King
 - o Reflect on the love of our Servant King
 - o Respond to the triumph of our Servant King

NOTES:

HOMEWORK

- Read and apply Practical Applications from this week's lesson
- Journal your reflections from this week's lesson
- Read daily reading plan for the Gospel of Mark

PRACTICAL APPLICATION

REMEMBER: Read through the Gospel of Mark in one sitting (it takes about 90 minutes). As you read, write down everything you learn about who Jesus is

REFLECT: Set aside 15 minutes each day this week for unhurried reflection. Read Mark 14-16 slowly, one chapter at a time over three days. Journal your thoughts, focusing on what Jesus' sacrifice means personally to you. Pray through what you've reflected on

RESPOND: Identify one person in your life who needs to hear about Jesus. Pray for them daily this week. Look for an opportunity to share your story of what Jesus has done for you.

JOURNAL:

Which of the three practices (remember, reflect, respond) do you most need to focus on right now? Why?

BIBLE READING PLAN

WEEK SEVEN

DAY 1

Reading: Mark 14:1–31 | Anointing + betrayal + the Last Supper

Reflection: What does wholehearted devotion to Jesus look like for me—without calculating the cost?

REFLECTION:

DAY 2

Reading: Mark 14:32–52 | Gethsemane + Arrest

Reflection: Where do I need to pray “not my will, but Yours,”?

REFLECTION:

DAY 3

Reading: Mark 14:53–72 | Trial + Peter’s denial

Reflection: When pressure hits, what most often pulls me into fear or compromise—and what truth do I need to hold onto?

REFLECTION:

DAY 4

Reading: Mark 15 | Crucifixion

Reflection: What does the cross reveal about God's love for you?

REFLECTION:

DAY 5

Reading: Mark 16 | Resurrection + commission

Reflection: Because Jesus is alive, what is one courageous step of obedience or witness I need to take next?

REFLECTION:
