

Vision Church Reading Plan July 2024

Here we are again! God's beautiful people reading the Scriptures together. We have come to meet Jesus right in the middle of God's word, the place that He speaks to us the most. I've heard it said that if you're not hearing from the Lord, you're probably not reading His word.

We're hoping you enjoyed reading through the large book of Acts and seeing how the first church was formed. Acts taught us how the early church functioned, and showed us how the gospel spread like wildfire. Acts helped us realize the importance of the gospel, and the beauty of God's Kingdom coming down to meet us where we are at.

We finished last month reading 1 Peter, which is a letter that was written by the Apostle Peter to the known church at the time. It was a refreshing finish to the month, as Paul and Peter are both staples in the faith that were led by the Holy Spirit to launch the Gospel in our trajectory 2000 years later.

As we ended 1 Peter we noticed the mention of the name of Mark, so with that we will jump into Mark's Gospel account. As we have been reading together over the last 6 months, I believe it is about time that we jump into a Gospel. It is believed that the Apostle Peter led Mark to a relationship with Jesus. The Gospel of Mark is believed to have been written sometime between A.D. 50-70 and focused toward Gentile readers.

From what we know from scholars, theologians, and history Mark did not physically walk with Jesus, however Mark was in close proximity to the apostles. We know he was a cousin of Barnabas and traveled with Paul and Barnabus as referenced in 1 Peter. It is believed that when the angel helped Peter escape prison in the book of Acts, the home that he went to first was Mark's mother's home. Many theologians believe that Mark's account of the Gospel is heavily influenced by Peter. It has been described as a gospel account scribed by Mark through the lens of Peter. You'll see that Mark's Gospel account is highly focused on what Jesus did, where the other Gospel accounts focus on what He says. The Gospels in a whole are key to learning about who Jesus is. If your Bible has the red letters then you can see the words of Jesus himself.

We encourage you to really chew on this text. We're going to slow this plan down a bit and take our time, spending time getting to know Jesus. The miracles Jesus performed were to show the people in that time period signs, wonders, and some were to fulfill prophecies from the old testament. Remember if it's in the bible, then every word is God breathed and inspired by the Holy Spirit. As we read and grow, there is so much in the

Word that God wants to use to show us His heart. Even if you've read it before, the Holy Spirit can highlight something that you didn't notice in past reading.

Stay teachable so you can continue to grow deeper in your relationship with Christ until the day you can go be with Him in Heaven.

Remember what 1 Peter 3:15 says,

“But in your hearts revere Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect”

Mark

Day 1: Mark 1:1-8

Day 2: 1:9-13

Day 3: 1:14-15

Day 4: 1:16-20

Day 5: 1:21-34

Day 6: 1:35-39

Day 7: 1:40-45

Day 8: 2:1-12

Day 9: 2:13-17

Day 10: 2:18-22

Day 11: 2:23-28

Day 12: 3:1-6

Day 13: 3:7-12

Day 14: 3:13-19

Day 15: 3:20-35

Day 16: 4:1-20

Day 17: 4:21-25

Day 18: 4:26-29

Day 19: 4:30-34

Day 20: 4:35-41

Day 21: 5:1-20

Day 22: 5:21-43

Day 23: 6:1-6a

Day 24: 6:6b-13

Day 25: 6:14-29

Day 26: 6:30-44

Day 27: 6:45-56

Day 28: 7:1-23

Day 29:7-24:30

Day 30:7-31-37

Day 31: 8:1-13