

An open Bible is shown from a top-down perspective, lying flat. The pages are filled with text, but the text is mostly obscured by a large, white, sans-serif font that reads "GOSPEL OF MARK". The word "GOSPEL OF" is in a smaller font size than "MARK". The background is a dark, muted color, possibly the cover of the Bible or a dark surface it's resting on.

GOSPEL OF MARK

Mark 5:21-43

21 When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. 22 Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. 23 He pleaded earnestly with him, “My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live.” 24 So Jesus went with him. A large crowd followed and pressed around him. 25 And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. 26 She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. 27 When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, 28 because she thought, “If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed.” 29 Immediately her bleeding stopped, and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering. 30 At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my clothes?” 31 “You see the people crowding against you,” his disciples answered, “and yet you can ask, ‘Who touched me?’” 32 But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. 33 Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. 34 He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.” 35 While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. “Your daughter is dead,” they said. “Why bother the teacher anymore?” 36 Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, “Don’t be afraid; just believe.” 37 He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. 38 When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. 39 He went in and said to them, “Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep.” 40 But they laughed at him. After he put them all out, he took the child’s father and mother and the disciples who were with him and went in where the child was. 41 He took her by the hand and said to her, “Talitha koum!” (which means “Little girl, I say to you, get up!”). 42 Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. 43 He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this and told them to give her something to eat.

Reread 5:25-26. Why was this woman's disease more than just a physical problem? (Read Leviticus 15:25-27)

- **In our desperation, we have all looked somewhere other than Jesus for hope and healing. Think of a few things you've put your hope in that have led to more pain and/or bankruptcy (moral or financial).**

Mark 5:30-34

30 At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, “Who touched my clothes?” 31 “You see the people crowding against you,” his disciples answered, “and yet you can ask, ‘Who touched me?’ ” 32 But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. 33 Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. 34 He said to her, “Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering.”

- 1. This woman had attempted to fly under the radar for her healing. How did Jesus’s question show kindness to her?**
- 2. What do you think Jairus was thinking and feeling when he found out his daughter died during Jesus’s conversation with the woman?**

Reread Mark 5:35-42. Please answer the following questions.

- 1. What do you think Jesus meant when He said the girl was asleep?**
- 2. What does that reveal about the power of Jesus?**
- 3. What similarities do these two stories share? Differences?**
- 4. What stood out to you most in this study? Why?**
- 5. What did you learn or relearn about God and God's character from this study?**

Mark 6:1-6

A Prophet Without Honor

6 Jesus left there and went to his hometown, accompanied by his disciples. ² When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. “Where did this man get these things?” they asked. “What’s this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing? ³ Isn’t this the carpenter? Isn’t this Mary’s son and the brother of James, Joseph, Judas and Simon? Aren’t his sisters here with us?” And they took offense at him. ⁴ Jesus said to them, “A prophet is not without honor except in his own town, among his relatives and in his own home.” ⁵ He could not do any miracles there, except lay his hands on a few sick people and heal them. ⁶ He was amazed at their lack of faith. Then Jesus went around teaching from village to village.

Reread 6:2. When the Sabbath came, he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were amazed. “Where did this man get these things?” they asked. “What’s this wisdom that has been given him? What are these remarkable miracles he is performing?

- **Read Luke 4:16-22.** What was the people’s initial emotional response Jesus’s declaration to being the Messiah?
- **Read Luke 4:23-29.** What did Jesus say that turned them from astonishment to anger?
- Why might that have been particularly offensive to this Jewish crowd?
- Is there anyone you find it hard to imagine God’s grace extending to?
- **Read Matthew 13:58.** Why do you think Jesus couldn’t do mighty work in Nazareth?

Mark 6:7-13

⁷ Calling the Twelve to him, he began to send them out two by two and gave them authority over impure spirits. ⁸ These were his instructions: “Take nothing for the journey except a staff—no bread, no bag, no money in your belts. ⁹ Wear sandals but not an extra shirt. ¹⁰ Whenever you enter a house, stay there until you leave that town. ¹¹ And if any place will not welcome you or listen to you, leave that place and shake the dust off your feet as a testimony against them.” ¹² They went out and preached that people should repent. ¹³ They drove out many demons and anointed many sick people with oil and healed them.

Do you remember when Jesus first chose His apostles in Mark 3:13-19? In Mark 6:7-13 those twelve men stepped into a new aspect of their calling.

According to Mark 3:13-19, what was Jesus's purpose for them?

13 Jesus went up on a mountainside and called to him those he wanted, and they came to him. 14 He appointed twelve that they might be with him and that he might send them out to preach 15 and to have authority to drive out demons. 16 These are the twelve he appointed: Simon (to whom he gave the name Peter), 17 James, son of Zebedee and his brother John (to them he gave the name Boanerges, which means "sons of thunder"), 18 Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James, son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot 19 and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

In 6:7-13, Jesus moved into the “send them out phase.” They were to act as His representatives and get hands-on experience in ministry. Jesus launched them out, giving them instructions and imparting divine power necessary for the work He was calling them to accomplish.

- 1. What instructions and authority did Jesus impart to His disciples to prepare them for ministry?**
- 2. In addition to how to do ministry, what do you think Jesus wanted them to experience and learn?**
- 3. Review 6:12-13. After receiving Jesus’s instructions, what did the apostles do?**
- 4. What was their message to the people?**
- 5. Read 1:4 and 1:14-15. Who else shared this message?**

As Jesus grew in popularity, so did murmurings about His identity. The crowds were generally confused about who He was. His ministry connected in uncanny ways with prophecy about Elijah and reminded people of the prophets of old. Talk about Jesus and His miraculous power had made its way to Herod, who was convinced that Jesus was somehow a reincarnation of John the Baptist (JTB), the man he had killed.

- 1. Based on what we know of Herod's experience with JTB, what similarities do you think would have led to Herod's confusion about Jesus's identity?**
- 2. Describe what happened in 6:23-29.**
- 3. What does Herodias's willingness to choose beheading over extravagant material gifts reveal about her heart?**
- 4. What mattered most to each of the three main characters: JTB, Herodias, and Herod?**