

A WINTER BIBLE STUDY ON THE GOSPEL OF MARK

Tuesdays, 10:30 am to 12 noon – February 23rd – May 11th

Facilitators: Rev. Geoff Ross & Rev. Rosemary Doran

"The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God." (Mark 1:1 NRSV)

Session 11: Tues., May 11th Jerusalem: "The Resurrection of Jesus"

Question 1) The Gospel of Mark ends with a series of unknown – almost invisible – characters who play significant roles in their witness to Jesus' death and resurrection. In chapter 16 it is two women – Mary Magdalene and Mary, Jesus' mother – who go to the tomb together, to anoint Jesus' body; it is these two – barely visible – women who first hear the Good News – that *"He has been raised; he is not here."* **Mark's Gospel puts an emphasis on faithfulness rather than status or identity: Reflect over the Gospel; which 'invisible' individuals stands out for you – and why? What does Mark's Gospel say to those who might feel invisible? In what way have you felt 'invisible' in your faith?**

Question 2) You might have missed it.... When Jesus predicted that Peter was going to deny Him, Jesus also promised that, after he had risen, he would go ahead of the disciples, back to Galilee (see 14:28). And at the empty tomb, through the angel, Jesus reaffirms his promise. It really is a small detail – but even in the small things, God keeps His promises: **What promises have you seen God keep in your life?**

Question 3) Many Biblical scholars and historians believe that Mark's Gospel ends as suddenly as it began – wanting to leave the reader or hearer wanting more, making them wrestle with what they had heard and felt about this man named "Jesus." As we finish our study of the Gospel of Mark: **How has your "view" – or thoughts – about the Gospel of Mark changed? Would you suggest this Gospel to someone asking about Jesus?**

Thank You for attending our Study of the Gospel of Mark

THE GOSPEL OF MARK

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A Communion Order based on Mark

Call to Worship: (Mark 14:32-38)

They went to a place called Gethsemane; and he said to his disciples, *“Sit here while I pray.”* He took with him Peter and James and John, and began to be distressed and agitated. And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. He said, *“Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me; yet, not what I want, but what you want.”* He came and found them sleeping; and he said: *“pray that you may not come into the time of trial: Let us pray....”*

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.

Invitation: (Mark 14:12-13,15-16)

On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, *“Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?”* So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, *“Go into the city, and ... make preparations for us there.”* [They] went to the city, and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

The Institution of the Lord’s Supper: (Mark 14:22-25)

While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said; *“Take; this is my body.”*

Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. He said to them,

“This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many.

“Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God.”

Communion: (By Intinction – Please partake in silence.)

Prayer after Communion:

Benediction: (Mark 16:6-7)

“Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” Amen.