

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45)

Explore the life of Jesus from the book of Mark and learn what it means to walk as Jesus walked.



### **Mark Overview:**

The earliest and shortest of the accounts of the life of Christ, Mark is a record of the ministry years of Jesus (26-30 A.D.). Mark explores more of what Jesus did over what he said. The word “immediately” (εὐθύς: at once, just then, quickly, etc.) appears over forty times in the book. Mark presents Jesus as the suffering servant and the only source of salvation. Almost half the book is used to present the last week of Christ’s life (11-16) while the initial chapters record his ministry (1-8) and attention given to his disciples (8-10). Anticipating a coming persecution under Nero, Mark may have written his gospel to prepare believers for the suffering they would face for following Jesus the, “suffering servant.”

### **Author and Date:**

Mark | Born in Jerusalem to a wealthy Jewish family | Abandoned Paul on one of his Journeys | Close to Peter | Restored in his relationship with Paul  
50-60 A.D.

### **First readers and their location:**

Gentiles Living in Rome

### **Open-up**

If you could have dinner with anyone in history, who would you choose? Why?

### **Into the Bible—Ask “What does it Say?”**

 **Read: Mark 2:13-17**

**What do you notice about the passage itself? (Structure, repeated words or ideas, unique words, main points, what did this passage say to the original author and audience)**

**See also : (Matthew 9:9-13; Luke 5:27-32)**

Jesus has just finished forgiving and healing the paralytic (2:1-12). The religious leaders were upset with Jesus for saying something only God could say, “Your sins are forgiven.”

What new controversy does Jesus create in verses 13-17?

Jesus was in the city of Capernaum, a city located at the intersection of many trade routes. Toll booths that collected taxes on goods passing through these routes were common. It was also normal for tax collectors to take a percentage above what was actually owed. Knowing this, what does Jesus ask Matthew, when he says “follow me?”

How does Jesus respond to the religious leaders who judge him?



**Into my life**—Ask “What does this look like in my personal life?”

What attracted you to Jesus in the first place? Why do you think the sick and sinners were so attracted to Jesus?

How would you apply the calling of Levi in your own life? Why? (Use I and me statements)

Who might God be placing in your life who needs Jesus? Why? (pray for each other in this)



**Into the World**—Ask “what does this look like in my world?”

Where do you think Westwood does things right in welcoming the sick and sinners? Where do we need to give more attention?