

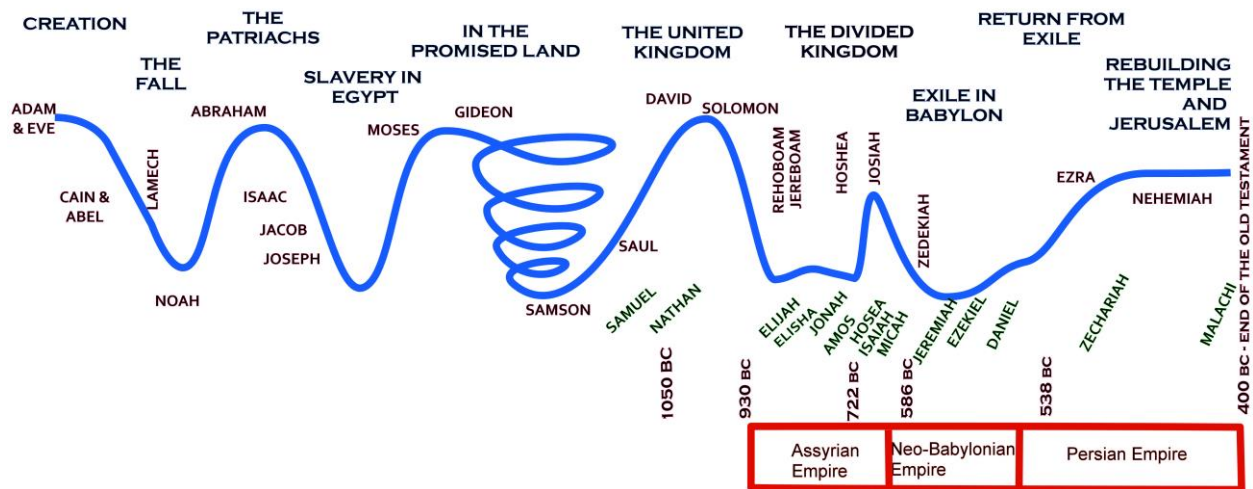
## WHY we're going through the Gospel of Mark?

- Disciples follow Jesus (**Matthew 4:19**)
- The gospel is the power of God (**Romans 1:16**)
- Putting into practice "Meditate on Good Things"
- Summer rhythm—Personal Devotion (reading plan)
- Getting The Word In—listen and read (YouVersion Bible App)
- Series plans (1:3) - #1 The Pursuit ><



## Setting the Stage for the Gospel of Mark:

- Old Testament Rollercoaster
- 400 years of silence
- "You're still not getting it! I'll come down and show you how." -God



## What's the Difference?

- What is a "Gospel"?
- Mark is different than Matthew, Luke, and John.
- Collection of stories versus a chronological order story.
- Three common themes of Mark:
  1. Jesus' ministry and mission
  2. Jesus is for the Romans/Gentiles, too.
  3. Jesus is the suffering Servant of God. (**Mark 10:42-45**)

## About the Author:

- Not one of the 12 disciples
- Wrote for the Apostle Peter

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**Mark 14:51-52** <sup>51</sup>And a **young man** followed him, with nothing but a linen cloth about his body. And they seized him, <sup>52</sup>but he left the linen cloth and ran away naked.

**Acts 12:12** When [Peter] realized this, he went to the house of Mary, **the mother of John** whose other name was Mark, where many were gathered together and were praying.

**Colossians 4:10** Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, and **Mark the cousin of Barnabas** (concerning whom you have received instructions—if he comes to you, welcome him)

**1 Peter 5:13** She who is at Babylon, who is likewise chosen, sends you greetings, and so does **Mark, my son**.

**Acts 12:25** And Barnabas and Saul returned from Jerusalem when they had completed their service, **bringing with them John**, whose other name was Mark.

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**Acts 15:36-40** <sup>36</sup>And after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us return and visit the brothers in every city where we proclaimed the word of the Lord, and see how they are." <sup>37</sup>Now Barnabas wanted to take with them John called Mark. <sup>38</sup>But Paul thought best not to take with them one who had **withdrawn from them** in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. <sup>39</sup>And there arose a sharp disagreement, so that they separated from each other. Barnabas took Mark with him and sailed away to Cyprus, <sup>40</sup>but Paul chose Silas and departed, having been commended by the brothers to the grace of the Lord.

**Philemon 23-24** <sup>23</sup>Epaphras, my fellow prisoner in Christ Jesus, **sends greetings to you,** <sup>24</sup>**and so do Mark,** Aristarchus, Demas, and Luke, my fellow workers.

**2 Timothy 4:11** Luke alone is with me. **Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is very useful to me for ministry.**

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- Mark passes on all that Peter had seen and experienced about Jesus—Jesus’ baptism, healing, demons cast out, character, transfiguration, persecution, killing, and resurrection.
  - Mark dies for his faith—he’s drawn and quartered.
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### **Personal Application and Life Group Questions:**

1. What stands out to you about Jesus’ pursuit of you and others?
2. What does it look like for you to follow Jesus?
3. Who do you need to share the transforming truth and grace of Jesus with?
4. How have you been given a “second chance,” and how has that changed you?
5. Is there anyone you’re needing to give a “second chance”?
6. What sacrifice(s) are you needing to make in your pursuit of Jesus?