

discover[☺] ... God's amazing book

INSIDE: All about Jesus from Mark; God talk in Psalms

1

Find a time
when you
can read
the Bible
each day



2

Find a place
where you can be
quiet and think



3

Get your
Bible and
a pencil
or pen



4

Ask God
to help you
understand
what you
read



5

Read
today's
Discover
page and
Bible bit



6

Pray about
what you
have read
and
learned



We want to...

- explain the Bible clearly to you
- help you enjoy your Bible
- encourage you to turn to Jesus
- help Christians follow Jesus

Discover stands for...

- total commitment to God's Word, the Bible
- total commitment to getting its message over to you

Dramatic Discover Detail by

Martin Cole Kirsty McAllister Anne Woodcock Andre Parker Nicole Carter

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UK phone: 0845 225 0880 Email: martin@thegoodbook.co.uk UK website: www.thegoodbook.co.uk

N America: www.thegoodbook.com Australia: www.thegoodbook.com.au N.Zealand www.thegoodbook.co.nz

How to use *Discover*

It's easy, honest!

Here at *Discover*, we want you to get the most out of reading the Bible. It's how God speaks to us today. And He's got loads of awesome things to say.

We use the *New International Version* (NIV) of the Bible. You'll find that the NIV and *New King James Version* are best for doing the puzzles in *Discover*.



The Bible has 66 different books in it. So if the notes say...

Read Mark 1 v 1

...turn to the *contents page* of your Bible and look down the list of books to see what page Mark begins on. Turn to that page.

"Mark 1 v 1" means you need to go to *chapter 1* of Mark, and then find *verse 1* of chapter 1 (the verse numbers are the tiny ones). Then jump in and read it!



Here's some other stuff you might come across...

weird words

Splookinchumps

These boxes explain baffling words or phrases we come across in the Bible.

think!



This box usually has a tricky personal question on what you've been reading about.

action!



Challenges you to put what you've read into action.

wow!



This box contains an astonishing fact that sums up what we've been reading about.

pray!



Gives you ideas for prayer. Prayer is talking to God. Don't be embarrassed! You can pray in your head if you want to. God still hears you!

Even if there isn't a PRAY! box, it's a good idea to pray about what you've read anyway.

Mark: All about Jesus

Mark 1 v 1

Day 1



Today we start to discover the Bible by looking at a great book called **Mark**.

It's all about Jesus and the amazing things He did and said.

But first, let's pray.

pray!

Ask God to help you understand what He wants to say to you as you read **Mark**.

Ask Him to help you learn loads about Jesus, so that you become more like Him.

No prizes for guessing who wrote this book! But what was he writing about?

Read Mark 1 v 1 to find out

THE GOSPEL...

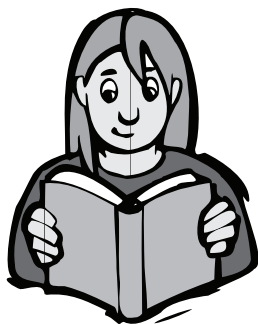
That means “**good news**”. Mark has things to tell us which today are still the best things anyone could hear.

...OF JESUS CHRIST

Many people switch off when they hear that name. But read the verse again — Jesus is the **Son of God!**

Do you want to know more about Jesus, the most important person in history?

Then stick with Mark as He tells us all about Jesus.



Use the wordsearch to find five phrases from Mark 1 v 1. Fill them in below the wordsearch and read what they mean.

E	N	G	T	T	O	L	S	S
T	K	V	S	Y	C	U	O	E
B	E	G	I	N	N	I	N	G
F	Q	O	R	O	K	F	O	Y
S	B	S	H	B	J	Z	F	R
H	N	P	C	J	P	M	G	A
A	J	E	S	U	S	D	O	V
X	H	L	P	D	C	R	D	L

B _____ **G**

A new start. Not only the start of the book of Mark, but a new start for people who turn to God.

G _____

Good news worth getting excited about!

J _____

This name means “**God saves**”. Mark will tell us how God saves people by sending Jesus to earth.

C _____

This means God's chosen **King** who would rescue His people.

S _____ **O** _____ **G** _____

God actually sent His **own Son** to earth! For us!

pray!



Thank God for the great news that He sent Jesus to us.

Get the message?

Mark 1 v 2-8

Day 2



Would you listen
to a man who
ate insects and
wore really
weird clothes?

No? Get ready
to change your
mind...

weird words

Prophet

God's messenger

Baptising

Dunking people
in water to show
they'd repented

Repentance

Turning away
from sin and
turning to God

Thongs

Like shoelaces

Read Mark 1 v 2-3

Wow! 700 years before Mark wrote his book, God's messenger Isaiah said that someone would prepare the way for Jesus. And here he is — **John the Baptist**.

Read verses 4-5

John knew people were not ready for King Jesus yet. They hadn't been living the way God wanted them to. *Cross out the Xs to show what John told them to do.*

XTUXRXNAXXWAXYFRX
OXXMSIXNAXXNDXBEX
BAXXPXTXIXXXSEDXX

T _____

John baptised people in the River Jordan. Being baptised showed they wanted to be washed clean from all their sins, ready to welcome King Jesus.

Read verses 6-7

John's weird clothes and wild food showed that he was a **prophet** (Elijah and other prophets were just the same). That meant he was **God's messenger**.

Read verse 8

What did John say about Jesus?



IXBAXPTIXXSEYXOUWIX
XTHXWAXTEXRBXXUTX
HEWXIXLLXBAXXPITXS
EYXXOUXWIXTHXXTHEX
HOXLYXXXSPXIXRITXX

I B _____

wow!



John baptised people to show they had turned away from sin. But Jesus would actually forgive their sins. And He'd give them the Holy Spirit to help them live for God.

pray!



See how great Jesus is???
Thank Him right now.
And ask Him to help you
see how awesome He is
as you read Mark's book.

Mark 1 v 9-11

Day 3



John the Baptist prepared the way for King Jesus to come and rescue His people.

Now we get to meet Jesus for the first time...

weird words

Nazareth/
Galilee

These places are both in the country now called Israel

Jordan

Main river in the area

The Spirit

Holy Spirit

Read Mark 1 v 9

John had been baptising loads of people. But Jesus was no ordinary person.

John baptised people who admitted they were sinful and needed to be forgiven. They turned away from their wrong ways.

But Jesus had never done wrong so He didn't need to be forgiven. But Jesus was baptised to please God. It was all part of God's plan.

Next, God lets us know just how special and important Jesus is.

Read verse 10

and go back 1 letter (B=A, C=B, D=C) to describe what happened.

U I F T Q J S J U

D B N F E P X O

P O K F T V T

M J L F B

E P W F

Jesus had the Holy Spirit in Him, helping Him to serve God, His Father. The great news is that ALL CHRISTIANS have the Holy Spirit too, helping them live for God!



Read verse 11

GOD SAID

" Z P V B S F

N Z T P O

X J U I Z P V

J B N X F M M

Q M F B T F E

Jesus is God's Son, who God loved very much. Yet He sent Jesus into this sin-filled world to rescue people from their sinful ways!

pray!



Thank God for loving us so much that he sent His Son Jesus to rescue us.

Tempting offer

Mark 1 v 12-13 Day 4



Mark is giving us evidence that Jesus is the Christ — the King sent by God to rescue His people.

Well, who else could face this...

Read Mark 1 v 12-13

That's nearly 6 weeks! Do you think you'd survive in the hot and dangerous desert for 40 days??? For Jesus, it was even worse than that...

Unjumble the anagrams to show who was with Jesus in the desert.

S _____
S A N T A

That's the devil. Right from the start he was trying to defeat Jesus. Satan would try anything to stop Jesus from rescuing His people.

W _____ A _____
L I D W A M S N A I L

There were all sorts of nasty creatures in the desert that could have attacked Jesus...

A _____
S L A N G E

...but angels looked after Him! God protected His Son.

Jesus didn't give in to the devil's temptations (check out Matthew 4 v 1-11 for the full story). Later on in his book, Mark tells us about other ways the devil tried to defeat Jesus. But Satan will never stop God's plans.

The devil tempts all of us. He wants us to give in to sin and stop living God's way.

think!



In what ways does the devil tempt YOU to do wrong?

Don't get too down about it! We all give in to temptation sometimes, but it doesn't stop God from loving us. Check out this brilliant verse...

1 Corinthians 10 v 13 (Not sure how to find it? Go back 4 pages to "How to use Discover")



pray!



Talk to God about your temptations. Be honest. Ask Him to help you fight these things. And keep asking Him; it won't happen overnight.

Fisherman's friend

Mark 1 v 14-20

Day 5



Jesus survived 40 days in the desert being tempted by the devil.

Now Jesus is back in Galilee and He's got a few things to say.

weird words

Repent

Stop doing wrong stuff and start living God's way instead

Read Mark 1 v 14-15

REPEN

THE GO

S NEAR

OD NEWS

F GOD I

LIEVE

GDOM O

T AND BE

THE KIN

Fit the **white** blocks together to reveal what Jesus said.

THE KIN

wow!



The kingdom of God isn't a place like Scotland. It's Jesus ruling over all His people. All Christians are part of God's kingdom! The kingdom of God is near because Jesus the King has arrived.

Now sort out the **shaded** blocks.

REPEN

wow!

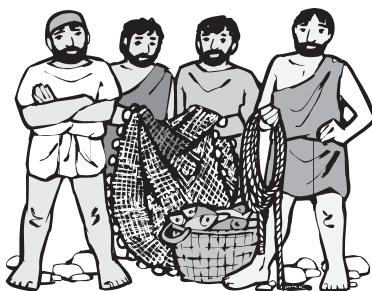


People need to **REPENT** (turn away from their sin) and **BELIEVE** the good news that Jesus can rescue them from sin. That's the only way to become part of God's kingdom.

Now read verses 16-20

Jesus changed the lives of these fishermen. *What did He say to them (v17)?*

That doesn't mean catching people in large nets! It means telling people about Jesus the King, so they can start to follow Him too.



think!



Today's story raises some big questions. Do you believe the good news about Jesus? Have you turned away from sinful stuff? Do you tell other people about Jesus?

pray!



Talk to God about your answers.

Spirit-splattering stuff

Mark 1 v 21-28

Day 6



Mark is still giving us evidence that Jesus is God's Son.

Let's follow Jesus into the synagogue.

weird words

Capernaum

Town on the edge of the Sea of Galilee — Jesus did loads of miracles there

Sabbath

Jewish holy day when they rested

Synagogue

Where people met to pray and learn from God's Word

Read Mark 1 v 21-22

*To find the first piece of evidence about Jesus, take **every third letter** starting with the first J.*

J T A E H U S E T U S H S
P O T I R A R I U I T G T Y H K
O T N V W E E I W R T W E H
H V A O I U J L T E S H S P O
U I R S R I W I T A T Y S S

1. J _____

The people couldn't believe their ears! Jesus' teaching wasn't the same as other people's. His teaching came **straight from God**, His Father.

WOW!



We're so privileged. We get to read the words of Jesus Christ! We get teaching straight from God's Son! So keep listening to what He says in Mark's book.

Read verses 23-24

Evil spirits are God's enemies and they can make people ill. But God is far more powerful than any evil spirit!

Now take every third letter starting with the first T, to uncover the second piece of evidence.

2. T _____

The evil spirit called Jesus **the Holy One of God**. He knew that Jesus had been sent by God, so he was terrified.



Read verses 25-28

Now write down every third letter beginning with the first A.

3. A _____

Jesus commanded the spirit to leave the man, and it did! **Jesus was in charge**. Nothing is more powerful than Jesus!

Are you as amazed by Jesus as these people were (v27)?

pray!



Thank Jesus that we can read His amazing teaching. And thank Him that NOTHING is more powerful than Him.

Mark 1 v 29-34

Day 7



So far we've found out that Jesus is God's Son.

He's also an awesome teacher who has authority over people and power over evil spirits.

And that's not all...

weird words

Demon-possessed

People who had demons in them. Demons are evil spirits that cause people to be ill or do sinful stuff.

Ever been laid up in bed with a boiling temperature? It's a rotten feeling when you're as weak as a kitten and hotter than the Sahara desert in summer.

Simon's mother-in-law had a nasty fever. And in those days a fever was often life-threatening.

Read Mark 1 v 29-31

Fill in the missing *Es* and *As* to reveal what happened.

J__s__us w__nt up
to h__r, took h__r
h__nd __nd h__lp__d
h__r up. Th__ f__v__r
l__ft h__r __nd sh__
b__g__n to w__it on
th__m __g__in.

That's incredible! Jesus healed her **instantly**. No one but Jesus could heal someone that quickly. In a second, she was well enough to get a meal for Jesus and His disciples.



A doctor like that was popular...

Read verses 32-34

This time fill in all the missing *As* and *Ss*.

Je__u__ he__led
m__ny who h__d
v__rious di__e__ses.
He __lso drove out
m__ny demon__.

JESUS HAS COMPLETE POWER OVER ILLNESS!

Hold on a minute!
Why wouldn't Jesus let the demons tell people who He was? (v34)

It wasn't the right time for people to know that Jesus was the Rescuer who God had promised His people. That time would come later. God's timing is always perfect.

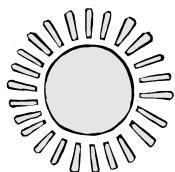
pray!



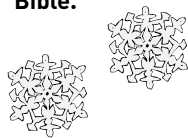
Jesus has power over illness! Think of someone you know who's ill. Pray that God will help them through this time and make them better.

**Psalm 19 v 1-6**

Day 8



We're going to take a break from Mark's book to check out two great psalms in the middle of the Bible.

**weird words****Heavens**

The sky

Glory of God

God's greatness

Proclaim

Shout out

Pavilion

House

Champion rejoicing

An athlete who loves to run

Psalms

Psalms are songs and prayers written to God. We're looking at two psalms that tell us about **HOW GOD SPEAKS TO US**. God mainly talks to us through His Word, the Bible. But reading the Bible isn't the only way we learn about God.

King David (who fought Goliath) wrote Psalm 19. In it he says that we can find out more about God just by looking up in the sky!

**Read Psalm 19 v 1-4**

What does the sky show us about God? Go back one letter to find out (B=A, C=B, D=C etc).

1.

H P E T

H M P S Z

2.

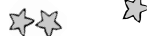
X I B U I F

I B T N B E F

Go outside or look out of the window. What does the sky look like right now?



God made all of that! It shows us how amazing He is. Sun, clouds, rain, stars, moon, lightning, **God made it all!**

**wow!**

Even people who don't read the Bible see what God has made! It doesn't matter if you're in London or Hawaii, the sky always shows us how great God is.

Read verses 4-6

The **sun** is a picture of how great God is. It's millions of miles away, but it is soooooo bright and powerful. **God made the sun**, so imagine how much more powerful God is!

**action!**

Look up at the sky and praise God for how great and powerful He is! Maybe when you see the sun and stars you can tell others how great God is!

Psalm 19 v 7-14

Day 9



Yesterday we saw how the sky shows us God's greatness.

weird words

Law/statutes/ precepts/ ordinances

God's commands to us in the Bible

Radiant

They shine and show us the right way to live

Righteous Perfect

Wilful sins

Doing wrong stuff on purpose

Blameless

Right with God

Transgression

Sin. Disobeying God.

How else can we find out about God and learn from Him?

Read Psalm 19 v 7-11

and circle the words that appear in these verses.

law teachings fear
commands Luton statutes
herrings precepts rules
judgments ordinances
sporrans instructions

Some of them may be long and weird but they describe something God wants all of us to understand.

They all mean **God's Word** — what God says to us. We read God's Word in the Bible. So what is God's Word like?

Read verses 7-11 again

and fill in the vowels (aeiou).

God Word is...

p__rf__ct (v7)

tr__stw__rthy (v7)

w__s__ (v7) r__ght (v8)

p__r__ (v9)

more precious than g__ld

and sw__t__r than

h__n__y (v10)



That sounds awesome!
We should read it more often!

Read verses 12-14

We don't always do what the Bible tells us. We often mess up. But we can do what King David did in these verses:

1. Say **SORRY** to God
2. Ask God to **FORGIVE** you
3. Ask God to **HELP** you to please Him with what you do and say

pray!



God's Word is perfect, pure, true, trustworthy and right. It gives joy to the heart, is more precious than gold and will last for ever!

Thank God for the Bible. Ask Him to help you understand it more and do what it says.

Psalm 119 v 1-8**Day 10**

**We're exploring
Psalms to
discover how
God speaks
to us.**

**weird
words****Blameless**

Living God's way

SteadfastFirm. Always
obeying God.**Decrees**

Commands

Upright

Good and godly

Righteous

Perfect

Utterly**forsake me**

Abandon me

Remember any of the words for
the Bible or **God's Word** that we
discovered yesterday?

C__mm__nds

Pr__c__pts

L__w

St__t__t__s

Remembering them will come
in handy as we jump forward
100 psalms to **Psalm 119**.

Which of these speech
bubbles fits **YOU** best?
Tick one.



I don't know much
about the Bible.

I know what the
Bible says but I don't
really obey it.

I know what God
says in the Bible and I
want to live that way.

Read Psalm 119 v 1-3

What's the great news for
people who obey God's Word?

They are b__ _ _ _ _ d

That means God is pleased
with them for obeying Him.
God also gives His people
great things — far more
than they could ever deserve.

Read verses 4-8**action!**

If we want to obey God's Word
(the Bible), we'll hate doing
what's wrong and love
following God's ways.
But we need God's help!

Even when we really want to live
God's way, we often mess up and
let Him down. The psalm writer
knew he couldn't obey the Lord
without HUGE help from God.

Flick forward in Psalm 119 to
verses 33-35. Read through
them several times. Now
write them out on a sheet of
paper. You might want to put
them in your own words and
maybe even turn them into
a poster for your wall.

**pray!**

If you really want to live for
God, read Him what you've
just written down. Ask God
to help you serve Him in
everything you do.

Psalm 119 v 9-16**Day 11**

**How is your
memory?**

**Try this memory
test to find out.**

**weird
words**

**Decrees/
statutes/
precepts**

Commands

Recount

Repeat

Rejoice

Celebrate —
be really happy

Meditate

Focus on and
think about

Neglect

Ignore and
forget

??? MEMORY TEST ???

1. What did you eat for lunch yesterday? _____
2. When is your mum's birthday? _____
3. What colour socks did you wear yesterday? _____
4. What's your best friend's phone number? _____
5. What was your favourite birthday present? _____
6. What is your favourite Bible verse? _____

If you're like me, you're not too good at remembering important stuff like birthdays and keeping promises... and especially what the Bible says!



**Somewhere in the Bible
it says something like... er... I
think it starts Trust... er...'**

Read Psalm 119 v 9-16

*What did the psalm writer do to remember God's words? Fill in the missing word from **verse 11** by drawing a picture of it.*

**I have hidden
your word in my**



It didn't go in one ear and out the other. He had been **thinking and praying** about God's words so much that he knew many of them off by heart!

*Did you notice **why** this guy was so keen not to forget anything he learned from God's Word (v11)?*

So that I _____

wow!

Knowing God's Word in the Bible helps us to live for Him and not mess up so much! And when we face tough times, it really helps to remember God's words to us.

action!

Do you have trouble remembering Bible verses? Start hiding them in your heart! Ask God to help you. Pick one of:

Psalm 119 v 11

John 15 v 17

Proverbs 10 v 19

Go on, try memorising it!

Psalm 119v89-91**Day 12**

Get hold of a really old photo of your parents or one of your relatives.

Go on, do it!

weird words

Lord
God

Eternal
Lasts for ever

Faithfulness
God is totally trustable

All generations
Forever

Established
Created

Endures
Lasts

Do you notice anything different about them?

Do they look just a *little* bit younger? Maybe they had a bit more hair! Their clothes might have been crazier too.

Things change. Fashions change. Haircuts change. People change.

But there's one thing that never changes. It stays the same, it's reliable and totally trustable...

God's Word!

Read Psalm 119 v 89-91

What God has said in the Bible is true for how long?

until 4.30pm next Friday ☐

until the end of the world ☐

for ever and ever and ever ☐

God's word is **ETERNAL** (v89). It lasts for ever and is completely perfect and true.



God made the earth (v90) and that has lasted. But God's Word has always been true and will be for ever! We can trust the Bible completely!

What else lasts for ever (v90)?

God's

f _____ ss

wow!



Can we really rely on what God has said and promised? Of course we can! God is totally faithful. He'll never let you down!

pray!



Thank God that His Word lasts forever. And that it is true and totally trustable. And that He will never let you down!

13

Do the *light* thing

Psalm 119 v 105

Day 13



Have you got any tough decisions to make?

Not sure if it's right or wrong to do a particular thing?

Read on for some great advice.

Is it wrong to do this?

I'm really confused about...

What's the right thing to do?

think!



Is there anything you're unsure about at the moment?

A million thoughts buzz around your head until you're confused.

STOP! THINK!
WHAT DOES GOD'S WORD SAY ABOUT IT?



Read Psalm 119 v 105

At night-time, street lights, torches/flashlights and headlights are great for **showing us the way to go**. And that's exactly what the Bible does for us. It shows us...
(circle the three correct answers)

God's way the way we want
easiest way right way
best way popular way

The Bible shows us the right and best way to live. God's way.

Read verse 130

You don't even have to be super-intelligent! God has promised to help us **understand** His Word.

wow!



If you want to do the right thing and please God, then discover what the Bible says. ASK GOD TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND HIS WORD!

action!



Look at what you've written in the think! box. Now...

- read what the Bible says about it (ask someone where to look if you're not sure)
- talk to an older Christian about it
- pray about it

Day 14



We're still in Psalm 119, taking an in-depth look at God's Word, the Bible.

Today is a code-breaker special.

weird words

Decrees/ statutes

God's commands

Watches of the night

The middle
of the night

Meditate

Think about

**Preserve
my life**

Keep me alive

What should we always do when we read the Bible?

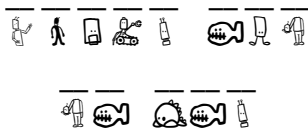


Be honest: how often do you pray? Is it usually rushed?

The guy who wrote Psalm 119 didn't just say a super-quick prayer and then rush for his breakfast! He had something to ask God that he really needed the Lord to answer. See how he went about it...

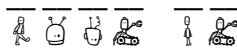
Read Psalm 119 v 145-149

What did he do?



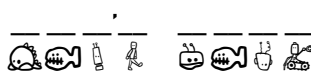
His prayers were not a bored, quiet mumble. He put his heart into it. He was so desperate for God to hear Him that He even got up in the night to pray!

What did he call out to God?



He asked God to save him from his enemies. And we can ask God to help us too.

Why was he sure that God would answer his prayer (v149)?



He knew that he didn't deserve an answer from God. But he knew how incredibly kind and loving God is. God loves us and answers our prayers!

pray!



When you pray to God, make sure you mean every word from your heart. Try it right now as you tell God what's on your mind.

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email: martin@thegoodbook.co.uk**

A C D E G I L M O P R S T U V Y



Psalm 119

v 171-175

Day 15



Over the last week we've learned loads about the Bible.

Can you remember what we've learned about the Bible in Psalms 19 and 119?

weird words

Righteous

Perfect and right

Precepts

Commands

Salvation

Rescue from sin

Sustain me

Support me,
keep me living
your way

Fill in the missing vowels (aeiou)
for a reminder (flick back over
the last 7 days if you need to).

God's Word is...

p__rf__ct

tr__stw__rthy

more precious than g__ld

to be __beyed

to be hidden in our h__rts

always the s__me

f__thf__l

a l__ght to guide us

How great is the Bible?! We
should talk about it much more!

Read Psalm 119 v 171-175

and see what the psalm writer
did after learning so much from
God's Word.

His l__ps ov__rfl__wed
with pr__se. He wanted to
s__ng about G__d's W__rd.

He couldn't
keep quiet
about God
and about
God's Word,
the Bible!



That's why he wrote this huge,
long psalm (it's got 176 verses!).
He just had to **PRAISE GOD**! He
had soooo much to say about
how awesome God's Word is!

He wanted **EVERYONE** to know
how much he loved it. And he
wanted them to love it too.



think!



What are YOU always
blabbering on about? What
do you love talking about to
anyone who will listen?

Wouldn't it be great if you
were as excited talking about
what you've read in the Bible!

pray!



Thank God for giving us the
Bible. Ask Him to help you tell
your friends about what
you've learned from His Word.

Mark 1 v 35-39**Day 16**

Let's get back into Mark's book about Jesus.

Jesus is at the end of a hectic day of teaching and healing 100s of people.

Sleeping in the next morning would be nice!

weird words

Solitary place

Quiet place with no one around

Synagogues

Where people met to pray and learn from God's Word

No chance!

Read Mark 1 v 35-37

When did Jesus get up?

It was still dark, before sunrise!
There must have been a good reason for getting up so early.
Find it at the end of verse 35.

He p_____

Jesus wanted to speak to God, His Father. That was much more important than sleeping.

think!

**How about you?
Do you pray at all?**

YES/NO _____

Do you just squeeze in a quick prayer every now and then?

YES/NO _____

Or do you spend lots of time talking to God?

YES/NO _____

Would you get up early to speak to God, even if you were tired?

YES/NO _____



action!



**You're never too busy to pray!
If you feel that life is hectic and there are a million things on your mind... that's exactly when you need to talk to God!
Try it next time life is crazy.**

Read verses 38-39

Preaching was massively important to Jesus. He wanted to tell everyone to turn away from their sin and turn to God (v15). We should want to do that too.

pray!



Take extra time today to TALK TO GOD. Tell Him what's on your mind. And ask Him to help you spread the good news about Jesus.

Need help with prayer? Then write to us or email us for a FREE DISCOVER PRAYER DIARY. The addresses are on Day 14.



Ever been ill with something contagious, like measles or chicken pox?

It can be pretty boring and lonely when your friends keep away, in case they catch it too.

weird words

Sacrifices that Moses commanded

The leper would go to the temple, offer sacrifices (gifts) to God, and the priest would declare him to be cured and clean again

Leprosy – yuck!!!

LEPROSY FACT FILE

In Bible times, leprosy was a nasty, incurable disease that was easy to catch. It made your skin go all lumpy and horrible. Or even drop off.

Nobody wanted to be friends with a leper, in case they caught it too. So everyone kept clear whenever they saw a leper coming.

But one leper had a real surprise. He met someone who didn't run away from Him.

Read Mark 1 v 40-42

Use the code to reveal what Jesus did.

1. _____

_____ when no one else did.

2. _____ him

3. _____ him

when no one else could.



Jesus touched this man and cured Him! Jesus showed He had power over sickness. But there was a price to pay...

Read verses 43-45

Crowds flocked to Jesus to see more miracles. But that wasn't why Jesus came. He came to **preach** (see v38) and tell people the good news. But now He had to stay away from the towns because of the crowds.

pray!



In some countries, like India, Brazil and Indonesia, leprosy is still a big problem. Pray for *The Leprosy Mission* and for the people they help.

You can find out more at www.leprosymission.org

A B C D E H I L M O R T U



Mark 2 v 1-12

Day 18



So far, we've seen that Jesus has power over people, evil spirits and sickness.

Jesus has the power to forgive sins too...

weird words

Paralytic

Man who couldn't walk

Blaspheming

Claiming to be God

Teachers of the law

Experts on the Old Testament

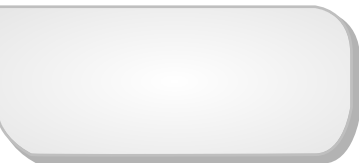
Son of Man

Jesus Christ

Drop in

Read Mark 2 v 1-4

These guys wanted their paralysed friend to be healed. And they **believed** that Jesus could do it. *They were so desperate to get him to Jesus, what did they do?*



Read verse 5

What did Jesus say to the man?



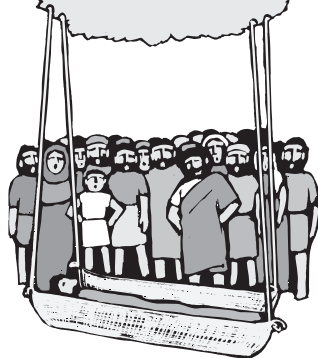
If the man needed to **walk**, why did Jesus talk to Him about **sin**?

wow!

Sin is more than just doing wrong stuff. Sin is doing what **WE** want instead of what **GOD** wants. Sin separates us from God. This man couldn't walk, but he had a far bigger problem — **SIN**.

Jesus claimed to have the power to **forgive sins**! This upset some of the religious leaders...

Read verses 6-7



They couldn't believe that Jesus was claiming to have the same power as God. But Jesus **is** God, so He proved it to them.

Read verses 8-12

Which of these is easiest to say?

A

Your sins are forgiven

B

Get up and walk

It's easier to say **A** because no one can see if it's true or not! So, to show that He does have power to forgive sins, Jesus also said **B**! And then He healed the man in front of everyone!

Jesus proved that He has the power to forgive sins.

think!



Only **JESUS** has the power to forgive sins. Have you asked Him to forgive yours?

If you want to, tell Him you're **SORRY** for sinning against Him. And that you want to live His way, not your own. Ask Him to **FORGIVE** you. Make sure you tell an older Christian you've asked Jesus to forgive you.

Mark 2 v 13-17

Day 19



Which of these
needs a doctor?

Jonathan
has a fever and
can barely move

Laura
is covered in
green boils!

Jess
feels really
really healthy

weird
words

Pharisees

Religious leaders
who hated Jesus

Righteous

Here it means
people who
thought they
were good
and godly

Dinner with a sinner

Go back one letter to reveal a
famous phrase.

J U J T

O P U U I F

I F B M U I Z

X I P O F F E B

E P D U P S C V U

U I F T J D L

Sounds obvious? Well it wasn't
to the Jewish leaders.

Read Mark 2 v 13-16

Who did Jesus call to follow Him?

M F W J

Levi was also known as **Matthew**
(the disciple who wrote the Bible
book called *Matthew*). He was a
tax collector who worked for the
hated Romans.



The Pharisees were horrified
that Jesus made friends with tax
collectors and other people they
didn't respect. They thought He
should hang out with "good"
people like them!

But what's that got to do with
sick people and **doctors**?

Read verse 17

1. The I F B M U I Z
People who think they're good

2. The T J D L
People who know that
they are sinful

3. The E P D U P S
Jesus – the sin doctor

Jesus knows that people who
think they're good enough won't
ask Him (the sin doctor) to
forgive them. But people who
realise how sinful they are will
turn to Jesus for forgiveness.
And He'll cure their sin problem!

think!



We're all sinners. But not
everyone thinks they need
Jesus to forgive them.
How about YOU? Talk to God
about your answer.

Mark 2 v 18-22**Day 20**

Ever been to
a wedding?

Imagine if there
were no food,
not even a
wedding cake!

**weird
words****Disciples**

Followers,
students

Garment

Item of clothing

Wineskins

Wine bottles
made from the
skin of animals

**Read Mark 2 v 18-19**

The Pharisees and the followers
of John the Baptist were fasting.

FASTING is not eating food
for a while. It was often a
sign of being sad. In those
days many Jews fasted twice
a week!

But there was no reason why
Jesus' disciples should fast.
Jesus compared Himself to a
bridegroom (v19). His disciples
were like wedding guests. They
were so happy to be with Jesus
(the bridegroom). Why should
they be sad and go without food?

Read verse 20

Jesus knew that He would soon
die. When that happened, His
followers would be really sad.
Then they'd fast. (Yet their sorrow
wouldn't last long — God would
raise Jesus back to life!)

**The message about Jesus is
that He came to RESCUE us.
He died in our place, so that
we can be friends with God.
But the Pharisees said that
people had to keep a set of
rules to be friends with God.
The two messages don't mix!**

Read verses 21-22

and draw what's missing.

You wouldn't
sew a new



onto an old



or pour



into old



- If you patch up **old** clothes with **new** material, they'll rip!
- If you pour **new** wine into brittle **old** wineskins, they'll split.

If you try to fit the message of
Jesus into a human set of rules,
it won't work. The **Pharisees**
said: You must keep our rules to
please God. **Jesus** said: Repent
(turn away from sin) and believe
the good news.

You can't become a Christian by
keeping rules or trying to be
good. Only by **trusting Jesus** to
forgive your sin.

pray!

**Thank God that you don't need
to keep a set of rules to be His
friend. Thank Him for sending
Jesus as your Rescuer.**

Corn on the job

Mark 2 v 23-28

Day 21



In the Old Testament, God made a good rule: You shall not work on the Sabbath. (Exodus 20 v 10)

One day a week was set aside as a day of rest.

weird words

Sabbath

Saturday, the Jewish holy day when people rested from work

Consecrated bread

Bread given as an offering to God

Son of Man Jesus Christ

But the Pharisees added loads of extra rules of their own. They listed 39 things you must not do on the Sabbath!

- **DON'T walk more than 1km from your home**
- **DON'T pick any crops**
- **DON'T cook any food**
- **DON'T do anything else that we decide is work**

Read Mark 2 v 23-24

Jesus' disciples were really hungry so they picked some corn to eat. The Pharisees' rules said this was wrong.

Read verses 25-26

Jesus reminded the Pharisees what King David had done when he was starving (it's in 1 Samuel 21 v 1-6). God didn't tell David it was wrong, so it can't have been!

Read verses 27-28

and fill in the vowels [aeiou] to show what Jesus said (v27).

Th__ S__bb__th was
m__d__ for m__n, not
m__n for the S__bb__th.

wow!



God made the Sabbath a special day. A day to rest from work, to chill out, and to spend more time with Him.

God **didn't** say that people should not eat, walk, cook or have fun on the Sabbath. If you keep Sunday as a day of rest, it's OK to do necessary stuff, and even do things you enjoy!

The S__n of M__n
is L__rd __v__n of the
S__bb__th (v28).

JESUS is Lord of the Sabbath. So we should give our rest days (as well as our work/school days) over to pleasing Him.

pray!



Don't fuss about religious rules. Instead pray about giving your life to serving Jesus and pleasing Him.

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