

Mark 1-4 Review Study

Discuss

What have you found most memorable/striking/exciting/challenging from the first three chapters of Mark?

Previously, in Mark's gospel...

1:1-20 Jesus is the promised Spirit-filled King who has come to save and judge

1:16-3:6 Jesus has authority to bring us from curse to relationship

3:7-35 Jesus' Kingdom will keep growing; those who reject him only succeed in excluding themselves

Discuss

1. How does this passage connect with what has happened in chapters 1-3?
(Note: compare 4:3 with 1:38).
 2. What questions have chapters 1-3 raised about Jesus' Kingdom? (This was a prep question)
 3. What expectations is this passage setting about the Kingdom of God? (This was a prep question)
 4. Why do many people who hear the word end up outside Jesus' Kingdom? (What do parables have to do with this?)
- IF TIME:
5. What examples have you seen of people who fit into one of these four soils?

4:1-34

Discuss

1. What will it look like for you to come to God's word with a big measure this year?
2. Why do we find it hard to keep listening to Jesus? Out of the three responses to the word that don't bear fruit, which do you think you are most in danger of? What does this temptation look like for you in particular at the moment?
3. What do you need to reflect on and remember about Jesus from this first section of Mark in order to keep listening to him?