



**The Gospel of Mark – The Story Behind the Story**  
**Dr. Nina Baratiak 04.07.2024**

**USING THIS SERMON DISCUSSION GUIDE**

We have provided all the Scriptures references in the sermon and some discussion questions for you to use to discuss the weekend message.

This Sermon Discussion Guide is only a tool to aid you in meeting the needs of your group. For most groups, there are too many questions to answer in one session together. Give priority to the needs and pace of your group members.

While the questions are important, remember your group's goal is to create an atmosphere that will foster true friendships. Use the discussion questions as you see fit but emphasize the relationships.

**Three key truths for us in the background of the Gospel of Mark:**

- 1. Your UNIQUENESS MATTERS AND MINISTERS!**
- 2. You can BE RESTORED TO FRUITFULNESS after a mistake!**
- 3. You can BE THE KEY TO RESTORATION for others!**

**Your uniqueness is needed in this greatest of harvest hours!**

**[Mark 16:14-15]**

Later He appeared to the eleven as they sat at the table; and He rebuked their unbelief and hardness of heart, because they did not believe those who had seen Him after He had risen. And He said to them, "Go into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature.

**[Mark 16:1-7]**

Now when the Sabbath was past, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, that they might come and anoint Him. Very early in the morning, on the first day of the week, they came to the tomb when the sun had risen. And they said among themselves, "Who will roll away the stone from the door of the tomb for us?" But when they looked up, they saw that the stone had been rolled away—for it was very large. And entering the tomb, they saw a young man clothed in a long white robe sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, "Do not be alarmed. You seek Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is risen! He is not here. See the place where they laid Him. "But go, tell His disciples—and Peter--that He is going before you into Galilee; there you will see Him, as He said to you."

**[Acts 13:13]**

Now when Paul and his party set sail from Paphos, they came to Perga in Pamphylia; and John (Mark), departing from them, returned to Jerusalem.

**[Acts 15:36-41]**

Then after some days Paul said to Barnabas, "Let us now go back and visit our brethren in every city where we have preached the word of the Lord and see how they are doing." Now Barnabas was determined to take with them John called Mark. But Paul insisted that they should not take with them the one who had departed from them in Pamphylia and had not gone with them to the work. Then the contention became so sharp that they parted from one another. And so Barnabas took mark and sailed to Cyprus; but Paul chose Silas and departed, being commended by the brethren to the grace of God. And he went through Syria and Cilicia, strengthening the churches.

**This could have been the end of the ministry road for Mark.  
Barnabas had a heart to see people restored.**

**[Colossians 4:10-11]**

Aristarchus my fellow prisoner greets you, with Mark the cousin of Barnabas (about whom you received instructions: if he comes to you, welcome him), and Jesus who is called Justus. These are my only fellow workers for the kingdom of God who are of the circumcision; they have proved to be a comfort to me.

**[2 Timothy 4:11]**

Only Luke is with me. Get Mark and bring him with you, for he is useful to me in ministry.

**The Lord uses even our failures to enable us to speak into other people's lives.**

**We can be restored to be fruitful in the Kingdom even after mistakes!**

### **Key Points:**

Three Key Truths for us in the background of the Gospel of John.

1. Your uniqueness matters and ministers!
2. You can be restored to fruitfulness after a mistake!
3. You can be the key to restoration for others!

### **Applications for the Week:**

Easter and Christmas aren't the only times of the year to reach out to people and invite them to church. This week, ask God to give you eyes to see those far from God, move your heart for them, and be bold in showing the love of Jesus. One invitation can change someone's life.

### **Discussion Questions**

1. In what ways was Mark just like us today?
2. Why do you think there are four gospels written with different perspectives?
3. Discuss the three points Dr Nina mentioned at the beginning of her message. Why are these points significant to us moving forward?
4. How can each of us carry the gospel in our own uniqueness? Why is your uniqueness significant in this great harvest time, locally and globally?
5. Why do we need to understand and speak the language of the people with whom we share God's heart?
6. Can you identify a Barnabas in your life? Who is someone who comforts, encourages, and stands up for you?
7. Who is someone you can be a Barnabas to, bringing those who may be discouraged with you?
8. In your experience, how and where have you been called to carry the Gospel?