

THE GOSPEL OF MARK

The Crown and Cross of Christ

Chapter 8- Who do you say I am?

We study Scripture to know God, not just know about Him. God is a loving Father who has given His Word for His glory and our good so challenge yourself to read the Word everyday and read it relationally. 2 Timothy 3:16-17.

Start with prayer. Pray that the Holy Spirit would open your heart and mind to the Truth of Scripture and what God is revealing to you through His Word.

DAY 1

Read :Psalm 57, Mark Chapter 8. What stands out to you? Who are the major characters in this chapter? What settings are they in? What questions do you have?

What does this reveal about God? What does this reveal about man? How does it communicate the Gospel? What commands are there to follow? What sins are there to repent of? How you can apply this text to your life today? (continue to think through these questions everyday as you read and study)

DAY 2

Tuesday is our day to pray and fast together as we reflect on the Supremacy of Christ as a church collective, along with each house church and individual specific prayer focuses.

This week looks at Jesus as our High Priest.

Read: Psalm 58 , Hebrews 4:14-5:10, Hebrews 9: 11-14, Hebrews 10: 19-25

In the Old Testament, the High Priest was the only person who could enter the temple and dwell in the presence of God. He was the representative who was to intercede and offer sacrifices on behalf of the people of God over and over again. Jesus not only came as our intercessor and priestly representative but also offered Himself as our substitutionary ultimate sacrifice once and for all. He was the ultimate High Priest. He satisfied the righteous requirement of the law so we could live in the presence of God. Before the High Priest could enter the Holy of Holies, he would have to go through a cleansing ritual in order to enter into the presence of God, but Jesus was free from sin, and through our confession and faith in Him, we are cleansed and made worthy to live in the abiding presence of God.

- Praise God that, although His holiness demanded a sacrifice to overcome your sin, that He satisfied that sacrifice by His own Son once and for all.
- Praise God that His acceptance of you is not based on your merit but on the merit of Jesus.
- Pray that when guilt, shame, fear, and doubt overtake you, that you would remember, revel, and live in the completed work for you by our High Priest, Jesus Christ.

DAY 3

Read Psalm 59, Mark Chapter 8

What attitudes and/or actions are being addressed? How should you respond? Take time to pray and ask God to help you in these areas. Share with a brother/sister in Christ and invite them to come alongside you.

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DAY 4

Read Psalm 60, Mark 8:27-38

- Everything we have read in the Gospel of Mark thus far has led to this question Jesus asks Peter in verse 29, "Who do you say that I am?" - Who do YOU say Jesus is? Do you see Him as your customer service department, a vending machine, a moral teacher, or your Savior, God, and a King to follow? What are the implications for you with Jesus being the Son of God?
- Re-read Jesus' words in verses 34-36 as a personal challenge to yourself. What parts of you "identity" do you need to deny (self or cultured determined identity) in order to follow Jesus? What does it mean for you to "lose your life" for the sake of the Gospel? What is your new identity? How does the Gospel save you life (figuratively and literally)?
- What are the three commands in verse 34. Luke's account in Luke 9:22-27 says that we are to pursue these commands "daily." What would the way you engage your work, family, relationships, and emotional/spiritual/mental health look like if you truly denied yourself, took up your cross, and followed Jesus daily?

DAY 5

Read the Psalm 61 and Mark 8 one more time and watch the teaching.

DAY 6

Read Psalm 62 and pray

DAY 7

Read Psalm 63 and spend time in prayer before gathering with your House Church.

Pray (after) for clarity of How the Truth of God, in Scripture, can transform your mind and life and inform your actions. Pray for your next step of obedience. Pray for your House Church. Pray for the lost in your life.

Scripture is understood in community, so read to know God and bring your understandings to your House Church. "What then, brothers? When you come together, each one has a hymn, a lesson, a revelation, a tongue, or an interpretation. Let all things be done for building up." 1 Corinthians 14:26

Resources- for more study resources, go to www.thebridgehtx.org/resources