

1. Matthew 23 contains Jesus' seven-fold denouncement of the Pharisees. Identify the heart of their problem. Select at least three of his denouncements and compare it to attitudes of people throughout history and today. How do we display the same response as Jesus (see final verses)?

2. What things in Matthew 24 and Mk 13 help you understand that you are living in the last days?

3. The parables of Jesus each share one main truth for us to focus on. Pick a parable from Matthew 25 and identify the main point of the parable. How does that parable help you in your discipleship while you wait for the last day?

4. Breakdown a list of the events of Jesus' suffering to his ascension. In Mt 26-28

Categorize each event to the truth it helps enforce below. Practice sharing some of the events listed above with the goal of relating each truth below.

- Jesus' knew he was going to suffer and die and willingly did so.
- Jesus is not only true man, but also true God.
- Our sins have been fully paid for by Jesus our Redeemer.

5. Read the three passion predictions recorded by Mark. What does each add? Appraise the disciples' responses. Why might we be tempted to shy from seeing "the Son of God" as one who came to die?

- Mark 8:31-33
- Mark 9:30-32
- Mark 10:32-34

6. What characteristics of Mark's gospel account do you notice differ from Matthew's account? What is "the same."?

7. Select one miracle of Jesus in Mk 1-14 which you consider to be well-known by many and one miracle deed which you think might not be so well-known.

Which miracle(s) help teach Jesus' grace?

His power?

How does each miracle help answer, "Who is this man?" (Mk 4)



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Week 2 Sept 22→ ..... Mt 22 - Mk 14



*"Every word of God is flawless;  
he is a shield to those  
who take refuge in him."*

You can still participate even if you did not finish reading the section.

We'll begin with time for sharing questions and comments on the reading section.

Matthew was a tax collector, a sinner called to share the Savior. Though despised by the Pharisees and many Jews he told his fellow Jews about their King who was despised and rejected on the cross.

John Mark, was an associate of Peter, he had deserted Paul and Silas on a missionary trip, but was later a faithful servant in the ministry. He writes from the testimony of another "deserter." Papias (died 130 AD) wrote: "Mark, who had been Peter's interpreter, wrote down carefully, but not in order, all that he (Peter) remembered of the Lord's sayings and doings."