

BIBLE DISCUSSION GROUP STUDY QUESTIONS

In preparation for Sunday, February 1, 2015

Passage: Mark 1:14-15

Memory Passage: Mark 1:14-15

DAY 1 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 1:1-13.** Let's review what you have learned during the last 3 weeks: Explain the role, ministry, and message of John the Baptist.
- (b) Explain the difference between John's baptism and Jesus' baptism (v. 8)?
- (c) What does Mark want us to understand that Jesus' baptism & temptation accomplished?
- (d) How are you in your daily life applying the truths found in vs. 12-13?

DAY 2 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 1:14-15 & 6:14-29.** Why was John the Baptist arrested, and why does Mark wait until chapter 6 to give us the details. In other words, what is Mark's purpose in 1:14 for mentioning that these events happened after John was arrested?
- (b) Why is it significant that Jesus "came into Galilee" (note passages such as Mark 6:14-29 & Luke 3:1-2) and why did He not go to Jerusalem?
- (c) What is the contextual relationship between v. 14 & v. 15?
- (d) What "time is fulfilled" in v. 15, and what signals its fulfillment?

DAY 3 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 1:14-15, Matt. 12:28, Col. 1:13.** The kingdom of God will prove to be a primary theme in Mark's gospel, and we will learn much about it through our study. Today we will limit our study to one aspect of and only a few of the many verses that deal with the kingdom. What do you learn about the nature and timing of the kingdom of God from these verses?
- (b) **Read Matt. 7:21-23, 25:1-13, 34, Luke 22:28-30, & 2 Tim. 4:18.** What do you learn about the nature and timing of the kingdom of God from these verses?
- (c) After studying these verses, how do you answer this question: Has the kingdom of God already come or is it yet future?

DAY 4 – ASK FOR INSIGHT

READ THE PASSAGE

- (a) **Read Mark 1:14-15.** One final question on the kingdom of God for this week: What is the difference between the kingdom of God and the church?
- (b) What does "repent" mean, and from what is Jesus commanding people to repent?
- (c) How do you know if someone, including yourself, has truly repented (see Matt. 3:8; Acts 26:19-20; 2 Cor. 7:8-12; et al.)?
- (d) Is your life marked by the act of repentance? If not, what should you do? If so, what benefits are you receiving?

DAY 5 – ASK FOR INSIGHT**READ THE PASSAGE**

- (a) **Read Mark 1:14-15.** What is “the gospel?” Please give as full, yet concise, definition as you can.
- (b) Explain what it means for you to believe in the competency of your doctor (e.g. what requirements must be met before belief is demonstrated, what does false belief look like, how are one’s actions affected by true belief or false belief, etc.).
- (c) Now explain what it means to believe in the gospel using the same criteria.
- (d) What challenges do 21st century non-believers face in understanding the ideas of repentance & faith? Are these challenges different from other times in history? Explain your answer.
- (e) Do believers need to repent and believe the gospel? Why or why not? What does it look like for you, a believer, to daily repent & believe? What challenges do you face in appropriating the work of repentance and belief in the gospel?

DATE: February 1, 2015**PASSAGE: Mark 1:14-15***The Messiah’s Message*