

Who Do You Say He Is? Mark 1:1

"Who do you say that I am?" This is the question that Jesus asked his disciple, Peter? And this is the question people asked throughout Jesus' earthly life. From his teachings to his healings and to the miracles he performed, people wrestled with the identity of Jesus. The Gospel of Mark was written to answer just this question—Who do you say Jesus is? And this question is as relevant today as it was 2,000 years ago when Jesus asked it of Peter? In our journey through the Gospel of Mark we will study the life, ministry, death, and resurrection of Jesus and ask ourselves, "Who do you say he is?"

We can trust Mark's account (and the other Gospels) to tell us who Jesus is.

- As you reflect on the message, what stood out to you? What is something you are still thinking about?
- What is something from the message that challenged you? How are you wrestling with that challenge?
- What question(s) do you have from the message?
- What is at least one practical takeaway from the message?

## Mark 1:1

"The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God."

- How have you or others you've heard describe the identity of Jesus before?
- How does Mark describe the identity of Jesus in Mark 1:1?
- How do all the Gospels, including the Gospel of Mark, help us understand the identity of Jesus? Put another way: what do the Gospels tell us about Jesus? Take some time and find examples in the Gospels.
- One of the greatest challenges to the Gospels is whether we can trust them? Look at Luke 1:1–4. How does the Gospel writer, Luke, describe his process of writing his Gospel? Why should this help us strengthen our trust in the Gospels?
- Pastor Dustin encouraged us to see the Gospel of Mark as the eyewitness testimony of the apostle Peter written by Mark. Turn to some passages to notice important clues to this:
  - Read 1 Peter 5:12–13. What does this tell us about the relationship between Peter and Mark?
  - Read Mark 1:16 and Mark 16:7. Peter is the first and last disciple named in this Gospel. Why and what is the significance of this?
  - Read Mark 8:31–35. How and why is Peter the focus of this dialogue?
  - Read Mark 11:21 and 14:72. How do these two verses speak of Peter? How is this different from the rest of the disciples?
- Perhaps the most important question is why did Mark write his Gospel? Turn to Mark 8:27–30. How do these verses give us a clue to Mark's purpose in writing?
- Why is it of utmost importance that we understand Jesus as the "Christ, the Son of God?"
- With more information in mind about the trustworthiness of the Gospels, how do you feel now about the Gospels? About Jesus?