

# The Beginning of the Gospel

## Mark 1:1-8

### Into the Lesson:

From Lane's sermon, commentaries and bible footnotes what do we know about the Gospel of Mark?

Authorship-  
Date of writing-  
Differences from the other Gospels-

How does his previous experience with his cousin Barnabus and his past involvement with Paul and Peter give us a glimpse of his personality?

From a previous discussion question: How do the opening verses of each give further indication of the personality of the authors?

Matthew 1:1-17-  
Mark 1:1-3-  
Luke 1:1-4-  
John 1:1-5-

### Into the Word:

Reread Mark 1:1-8 and reflect on Lane's statement, "...that the source of this Gospel is the Apostle Peter...":

"Working with the memories of Peter"-  
"Written not long after the crucifixion and ascension of Jesus"-  
"That all scripture was written with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit"-

How does a reread Isaiah 40:3 and Malachi 3:1 provide the link that was 400 plus years in coming but a further confirmation of the validity of the message?

What would it have been like to have heard about or even experienced the events of Jesus' birth and trying to square that with "the carpenter working in Nazareth"?

What part of John's approach to ministry (vv. 4-6) would cause anybody ever expect to see any positive results?

But how does verse 5 indicate our ways are not always God's ways?

How does John 1:22-23 provide us with a picture of his:

Humility  
Authority-  
Clarity-  
Urgency-

### Into Life:

What is the likelihood that there are those around us who have "boxed up the Joy of the Season" just like they put away the decorations?

What can we do to continue to provide "the thrill of hope" for these people?

How does Marks Gospel provide us with a direction for our growth and outreach in the coming days?

Without getting "all churchy", how can we implement the "Humility, Authority, Clarity and Urgency" of this book in our lives to make an impact in the lives of those around us?

Apart from eating bugs and wearing itchy clothes, what needs to happen in our lives to be able to share the simple, yet life changing, truths of this message with a world that desperately needs to hear it?

Jesus and his disciples went on to the villages around Caesarea Philippi. On the way he asked them, "Who do people say I am?" They replied, "Some say John the Baptist; others say Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets." "But what about you?" he asked. "Who do you say I am?" Peter answered, "You are the Messiah."  
- Mark 8:27-29