

LESSON 1

MARK: ACTION PACKED!

MARK INTRODUCTION



1 Without reading ahead jot down all you know about Mark the man and Mark the Gospel.



Read the introductory material to Mark and the following notes:

☐ 1:1 ☐ 1:2

2 Why is the Gospel of Mark considered a book of action?

3 How does this book compare to an action-packed, best-selling novel that you might find in a bookstore?

4 What are the similarities between the Roman world of Mark's day and our world today?



5 Look again at the Megathemes. How would you rate your life in the following areas?

Megatheme	Poorly		OK		Well
(Servant) How am I doing in serving others?	1	2	3	4	5
(Spreading the Gospel) How is my evangelism?	1	2	3	4	5

6 Why do so many people today read the Bible, believe that it is true, yet stumble at applying it completely to their lives?

Mark is an action-packed book. It portrays Jesus as a man of action—he got things done when and how they needed to be done. The first words of Christ recorded in this book carry a profound message: “At last the time has come!” he announced. ‘The Kingdom of God is near! Turn from your sins and believe this Good News!’” (Mark 1:15). All too often those in church tend to hear the words but fail to act on them. Acquiring knowledge without acting on what we learn leads to a fruitless and dull faith and, ultimately, pride and hypocrisy. But when we begin to act on the commands and principles of Scripture, our walk with Christ becomes heartfelt and productive. To know what is right and not do it is sin. A small change each day will add up to a changed life.

7 How would you rate yourself in terms of obeying what the Bible teaches?



8 What hinders you from living out a truth you have learned from the Bible?

9 Obeying God and taking action is more difficult in certain areas of our life than in others. In which area of your life would you most like to become more of a man or woman of action?



10 Pray each day this week that God would help you become a person who takes action—one who hears and obeys. When is the best time of day for you to make this regular request to God in prayer?

11 How can you remind yourself to do it?

A In what ways was the audience of this Gospel different from those of the other three Gospels?

B If you had been writing an account of the life of Christ for the Romans, what would be the ten most significant events that you would want to include?

C How can you serve others at home? on the job? at school? in the neighborhood? at church?

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