

Mark 1:1

Pursue

- For those who have read the book of Mark before, what differentiates it from the other three Gospels? What big ideas, themes, or stories stood out to you or were particularly impactful? Why?
- Mark 1:1 sounds very similar to Genesis 1:1, hinting that this is the beginning of a new creation story. What do you think it means for Mark's listeners and for us today that God is doing a work of recreation? Is there an area of life or sin that you long to see made new?
- Why do you think it is important that we understand and believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God?
 Consider each title given to Jesus in this text, Jesus (man) Christ (Messiah), Song of God (Second person of the Trinity/God incarnate). If we forget this or lose sight of the full identity of Jesus, what impact will that have in our thinking, believing, and obeying?

Practice

- Later in our study of Mark, Jesus will ask a blind man, "What can I do for you?" If Jesus was standing before you today and asked, "What can I do for you?" What would you ask him to do?
 - As a group, depending on the size and sensitivity of requests, spend time with prayer partners or go around as a group sharing these desires and praying for one another.
- Our text for the next week will be Mark 1:1-20. Ask your group members to read or listen to this text sometime this next week. Partner up, if you haven't already, and ask these partnerships to pray specifically for one another as they read and consider next week's text. Encourage them to follow up with each other this week if they are able.

Proclaim

(Leaders, grab a piece of paper, a whiteboard, a poster board, or open a note on your phone.)

For the next few months, we will be studying the book of Mark. Take a few minutes and consider one person in your life that does not have faith in Jesus that you will share what God is showing you and what He is doing in you during this series. This could be a co-worker, friend, gym buddy, family member, etc. Speaking with them could look like inviting them to church, sending them an impactful sermon, telling them something you've learned, encouraging them in light of something in the text, etc. Have each group member share who that person is and write them on the paper/board/note so that you can pray for them and follow up throughout the series.