

## KEY TERMS

**Gospel:** Good News.

**Messianic Secret:** a characteristic of Mark's gospel where Jesus does not wish to be recognised as Messiah.

**Miracle:** a seemingly impossible events defying the laws of nature & science.

**Transfiguration:** a chance in appearance – the event in which Jesus turned 'dazzling white'

**Gentile:** a non-Jewish person.

**Passion narrative:** the story of Jesus' last week

**Blasphemy:** a religious offence including claiming to be God.

**Sanhedrin:** The Jewish ruling council.

## ST. MARK' GOSPEL

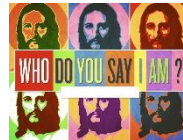
### THEME D: THE LIFE OF JESUS

#### John's Preparation

John the Baptist was Jesus' cousin. He wore clothes made of camel skin and a leather belt. His role was to prepare people for the coming of the Messiah. People needed to repent which is why he baptised them.

#### The Temptation

At once the Spirit sent him into the desert where he stayed for 40 days being tempted by Satan. Wild animals were there. Angels came and attended him.



#### The Baptism of Jesus

Jesus was baptised by John in the River Jordan. As soon as he came up out of the water the heavens opened, the Spirit descended on him like a dove and a voice came from heaven which said "This is my own dear Son, I am pleased with you".

#### Caesarea Philippi

On the way to Caesarea Philippi Jesus asks "Tell me, who do people say I am?" They reply "Some say you are Elijah, some say you are John the Baptist, while others think you are one of the prophets". Jesus says "who do you say that I am?" Peter answers "You are the Messiah" Jesus tells them not to tell anyone about him. Then Jesus tells his disciples "The son of man must suffer much, be rejected by the elders, chief priests and teachers of the law. He will be put to death but three days later he will rise to life" Peter rebukes Jesus. Jesus rebukes Peter "get away from me Satan!" Your thoughts don't come from God but from human nature.

#### The Transfiguration

Jesus took Peter, James and John up a high mountain where they were alone. Jesus clothes became shining white and the three disciples saw Elijah and Moses either side of Jesus talking to him. Peter says to Jesus "how good it is that we are here, let us build three tents, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah" They did not know what to say. A cloud appeared and from it a voice said "This is my own dear Son – Listen to him!". Jesus warned them not to tell anyone about what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from death.

#### Passion Predictions

3 times Jesus predicts that He will suffer much, be rejected and put to death, but that 3 days later He will rise to life. Each time the disciples did not understand what he meant by these words.

#### The request of James and John

James and John ask to sit at the right and left of Jesus in the Kingdom of God. Jesus tells them that they do not understand the Kingdom values. Those who first now will be last, and those who are last now will be first.

#### Blind Bartimaeus

Bartimaeus is a beggar in Jericho & calls out to Jesus "Son of David, take pity on me" He believes Jesus is the Messiah. People tell him to be quiet because this is dangerous to openly claim but he persists. "What do you want me to do for you?" says Jesus. "Teacher, I want to see again". Jesus says that his faith has made him well. Since the Messiah was thought to be a descendent of King David, Shouting Son of David was akin to calling Jesus the Messiah. Bartimaeus' faith is rewarded and he can now 'see' both physically & spiritually. He follows Jesus to Jerusalem.



#### The Early Ministry:

John's preparation  The Baptism  The Temptation  
 The Paralysed Man  Jairus' Daughter  The Rejection at Nazareth  The Feeding of 5,000

#### The Later Ministry:

Caesarea Philippi  Transfiguration  Passion Predictions  The request of James & John  
 Blind Bartimaeus  The Entry into Jerusalem

#### The Final days in Jerusalem:

The Last Supper  The Garden of Gethsemane  
 The Trial before the Sanhedrin  The Trial before Pilate  The crucifixion  The Burial  The resurrection

#### The Trial before the Sanhedrin

At the High priest's house, he asks Jesus "Are you the Messiah, the son of the blessed God?" Jesus replies "I am" This is blasphemous because Jesus is using the words of God to Moses in the burning bush. The High Priest tore his clothes to signify that Jesus was guilty and should be put to death. The people all told lies about Jesus and many rules governing a Sanhedrin Trial were broken. E.g. the trial should not have taken place at night time or on the eve of a festival.

#### The Entry into Jerusalem

Jesus enters Jerusalem on a colt. The people lay their cloaks on the ground and cut down branches in the trees to do the same. The people say "god bless the coming Kingdom of King David" They believe that the Messiah has arrived. The Messianic secret is being revealed. Jesus is fulfilling Zechariah's prophecy.

#### The paralysed man

4 men made a hole in the roof and let down the paralysed man lying on his mat. Jesus saw how much faith they had and said 'My Son, your sins are forgiven.' Teachers of the law thought 'this is blasphemy! Only God can forgive sins' Jesus knew what they were thinking and said 'Is it easier for me to say your sins are forgiven or to say get up and walk? I will prove to you that the son of Man has authority to forgive sins on earth.' So, he said to the man, 'Get up, pick up your mat and go home'. The man got up and hurried away and everyone was amazed.

#### Jairus' Daughter

Jairus was an official at the local synagogue. As a religious leader it was surprising that he put his faith in Jesus. The messengers come to tell Jairus that his daughter is dead. Jesus says 'just believe'. When He arrives, he says "Talitha Koum" which means "little girl, get up". She does and Jesus tells them to give her something to eat.

#### The feeding of the 5,000

Jesus got out of the boat & felt pity for them because they were like "sheep without a shepherd" so began to teach. When it got late, his disciples said that they leave & buy themselves something to eat. "You get them something to eat", Jesus said. "Do you want us to spend 200 silver coins?" Jesus asked how much food they had, and they told him five loaves and also two fish. The disciples split the people into groups of 50 and 100. Then he took the five loaves and the two fishes, gave thanks to God and began to distribute the food around. Everyone ate and had enough. The disciples had 12 baskets full left over. 5,000 people were fed.

#### The Rejection at Nazareth

The people at Nazareth did not know how Jesus had authority to teach in the synagogue. "Where did this man get all this?" They knew him as a carpenter, the "Son of Mary". This was offensive to suggest that Jesus had illegitimate parentage. Jesus replied "Prophets are respected everywhere except in their home town and among their own friends and family". Jesus could not heal because of their lack of faith.

#### The Burial

Joseph of Arimathea goes to Pilate to ask for Jesus' body. It is taken down and wrapped in a linen cloth. Jesus is buried in a tomb dug out of solid rock and a big

#### The Last Supper

Jesus tells the disciples to find an upper room that has been prepared for the meal. They are eating the Passover meal (Pesach). Jesus takes the bread and says, "This is my body". Jesus takes the wine and says "This is my blood, poured out for many which seals God's covenant." He predicts Judas' betrayal and Peter's denial.

#### The Garden of Gethsemane

Jesus is very distressed in prayer and says to God "take this cup of suffering away". The disciples cannot stay awake and keep watch for Jesus. Jesus says "the spirit is willing but the flesh is weak". Jesus is identified by Judas with a kiss. Jesus says "Did you have to capture me with swords and clubs as though I were an outlaw? I have been in the temple every day. All the disciples ran away and left Jesus. He is taken to the High Priests house for trial.

#### The Trial before Pilate

There has to be a roman trial as they are in charge of Palestine. Pilate is the only one who can issue a death sentence. Pilate asks "Are you the King of the Jews" – the charge has been changed from blasphemy to treason. Jesus replies "So you say". Pilate can see that the Jews are 'just jealous'. He offers the crowd a chance to free Jesus but they ask for Barabbas instead. Pilate was 'amazed' that Jesus refused to say a word but wants to please the crowd and so hands Jesus over to be beaten and led out to be crucified.

#### The resurrection

Very early on Sunday morning Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb. Jesus is not there but the angel tells her "He is not here! He has been risen!" They fled from the tomb & said nothing to anyone because they were terrified.

#### The crucifixion

Jesus is nailed to the cross at 9AM. He dies at 3PM Before his death, at 12PM, Jesus cries out "Eloi, Eloi, Lema Sabacthani" which means "my God, my God, why have you forsaken me?". There was a great earthquake, the sky turned dark. The Temple curtain tore in two. The Roman centurion says "this man really was the Son of God". Jesus died a relatively quick death. The earthquake and darkness represent a cosmic significance to the event. The Temple curtain represents the barrier of sin between humans and God no longer being present since Jesus died to save us and repair the relationship.