

Calvary Chapel Cajon

Women's Bible Studies

Mark 15

Lesson 14

Mark 15 begins *in the morning* and ends *when evening had come*. Between those dark hours, Jesus was falsely accused because of envy, handed over to be beaten, and eventually crucified in order to gratify a crowd. He was mocked, spit upon, and beaten. He was nailed to a cross and left to die. He accepted a title of royalty, King of the Jews, and He accepted the outpouring of the sins of the world upon Himself. When it was finished, He gave up His spirit. But, He did not give up. He will be back. Take heed as you study this One who *truly is the Son of God*.

DAY ONE: Read Mark 15

1. Read through this week's verses using both your Observation Worksheets and another Bible translation or paraphrase. After reading through these verses, what would you say to someone if they asked you what they were about?
2. How would you title this chapter? Record your title on the **Chapter Titles Chart**.
3. At the right-hand side of the same chart are columns labeled **Key Word** and **Symbols**. They have been provided for you to record the key words and the symbol you have chosen to represent each one. Record the key words listed below and their symbols on the chart.
God, Jesus, immediately, kingdom of God, and any references to religious rulers
New to this lesson: *Pilate, crucify/crucified/cross, and the phrase King of the Jews/Israel*
Now, using the symbols you have chosen, mark each of the key words each time they are used in Mark 15. Remember, as you mark the key words *Jesus, God, Pilate, and the religious rulers*, to mark any personal pronouns that refer to them.
4. Scan the many references to Jesus in this chapter. List five things revealed about Him.
5. The contrasting word *but* is used six times in Mark 14. Choose one of those times and record what is being contrasted and the significance of the contrast.

DAY TWO: Read Mark 15:1-15

1. This section of Mark 15 recounts the events as Jesus was tried before Pilate. What did Pilate ask Jesus? verse 2
 - a. What was Jesus' response?
 - b. John amplified on this conversation in John 18:33-37. Record one statement that is significant to you.
 - c. This is not the first time Jesus was referred to as the *King of the Jews*. Read Matthew 2:1,2 and record who said it first.
2. Mark 15:5 tells us that Pilate *marveled*. Why was Pilate amazed at Jesus?
 - a. When is it unimportant to defend ourselves or our actions?
 - b. Why is it so difficult to trust God with our reputation?
3. *Now at the feast he was accustomed to releasing one prisoner to them...*verse 6. Read verses 6-15 and record the two choices Pilate gave them.
 - a. Consider the character exemplified in the chief priests and Pilate. Why had the chief priests *handed Jesus over* to Pilate?
 - 1.) Using synonyms, define the word *envy*.
 - a.) What cruel act did their *envy* provoke them to demand?
 - b. Why did Pilate agree to *release Barabbas*?
 - 1.) Why do you think Pilate did what *the crowd* wanted?
 - a.) What is wrong with being a "crowd pleaser"?
4. Slowly read Mark 15:15. What are your thoughts?

DAY THREE: Read Mark 15:16-32

1. *Then the soldiers led Him away into the hall called Praetorium, and they called together the whole garrison.* Mark 15:16 Read verses 17-20 and list how Jesus was treated by the soldiers.

a. Read 1 Peter 2:18-23 and record Jesus' *example* that we are to *follow*.

1.) What can we learn from Jesus about how to deal with ridicule, pain and suffering?

2. *Then they compelled a certain man, Simon a Cyrenian,... to bear His cross. They brought Him to the place Golgotha, which is translated, Place of a Skull.* Mark 15:21,22 What emotions do you think Jesus felt as He was led away and crucified?

a. Simon's encounter with Jesus was very unusual. What was your first encounter with Christ/what were your first impressions when you first heard of Jesus?

3. Jesus was crucified between two *robbers*. What information does Luke provide in Luke 23:39-43?

a. What can we learn from this interaction of Jesus and the repentant *robber*?

4. What three mocking statements were made in Mark 15:29-32?

a. How would your life be different if Jesus had taken up the challenge of the religious leaders and come down off the cross?

DAY FOUR: Read Mark 15:33-41

1. These verses record the last hours of Jesus on the cross. Using the following references, record what happened:

Mark 15:33

Mark 15:38

Matthew 27:51

Matthew 27:52,53

Challenge: Explain the significance of the *torn veil*.

2. Record Jesus' heart-wrenching words from Mark 15:34.
 - a. Using 2 Corinthians 5:21, record what was happening at that moment.
 - b. Why might this moment be the most painful moment of all for Jesus?
3. What observation did the *centurion* make in Mark 15:39?
 - a. Consider some of the things this *centurion* witnessed as Jesus hung on the cross. If you were that *centurion*, what do you think would have caused you to conclude that Jesus is *truly, the Son of God*?
4. How does it make you feel to know that Christ endured such intense suffering for your salvation?

DAY FIVE: Read Mark 15:42-47

1. *When evening had come...Joseph of Arimathea...went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus.* Mark 15:42,43. Using these verses, describe *Joseph of Arimathea*.
 - a. What does Luke 23:51 add to this description?

- 1.) Considering Joseph's status as a religious *council member*, what risks do you think he took in asking *for the body of Jesus*?
 - a.) Contrast Joseph of Arimathea with Pilate. What do you see?
 - b.) What can you learn from the behavior of Joseph of Arimathea?
2. What did Joseph of Arimathea do after he was *granted the body of Jesus*? See Mark 15:46
 - a. Put yourself in Joseph's sandals. What emotions and thoughts might he have experienced?
3. Mark 15 ends with the words *And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Jesus observed where He was laid*. Why was this important?
 - a. What does Luke 8:2 reveal about *Mary Magdalene* (Mary of Magdala)?
 - 1.) Although a woman that many disdained, Mary witnessed what few had the privilege of seeing. Read the following verses and record what she saw:
 - Mark 15:40
 - Mark 15:47
 - Mark 16:(1), 5
 - Mark 16:6
 - Mark 16:9
 - a.) In what way(s) does this impact you?

DAY SIX: Review Mark 15

1. Share one impression as you contemplate Jesus:
as He stood before Pilate

as He was mistreated by the soldiers

as He was crucified

2. What has Christ's sacrifice on the cross accomplished for you?

3. What can we learn from the example (either negative or positive) of:
Pilate

The religious rulers

The people who mocked Jesus

The centurion

Mary Magdalene & Mary the mother of James, Joses, and Salome

Joseph of Arimathea

4. Share one thing from this lesson that has given you a greater appreciation of Jesus' sacrifice for you.

... Truly, this Man was the Son of God!
- Luke 15:39

Chapter Fifteen

¹Immediately, in the morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council; and they bound Jesus, led Him away, and delivered Him to Pilate. ²Then Pilate asked Him, "Are You the King of the Jews?" He answered and said to him, *"It is as you say."* ³And the chief priests accused Him of many things, but He answered nothing. ⁴Then Pilate asked Him again, saying, "Do You answer nothing? See how many things they testify against You!" ⁵But Jesus still answered nothing, so that Pilate marveled. ⁶Now at the feast he was accustomed to releasing one prisoner to them, whomever they requested. ⁷And there was one named Barabbas, who was chained with his fellow rebels; they had committed murder in the rebellion. ⁸Then the multitude, crying aloud, began to ask him to do just as he had always done for them. ⁹But Pilate answered them, saying, "Do you want me to release to you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰For he knew that the chief priests had handed Him over because of envy. ¹¹But the chief priests stirred up the crowd, so that he should rather release Barabbas to them. ¹²Pilate answered and said to them again, "What then do you want me to do with Him whom you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³So they cried out again, "Crucify Him!" ¹⁴Then Pilate said to them, "Why, what evil has He done?" But they cried out all the more, "Crucify Him!" ¹⁵So Pilate, wanting to gratify the crowd, released Barabbas to them; and he delivered Jesus, after he had scourged Him, to be crucified. ¹⁶Then the soldiers led Him away into the hall called Praetorium, and they called together the whole garrison. ¹⁷And they clothed Him with purple; and they twisted a crown of thorns, put it on His head, ¹⁸and began to salute Him, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ¹⁹Then they struck Him on the head with a reed and spat on Him; and bowing the knee, they worshiped Him. ²⁰And when they had mocked Him, they took the purple off Him, put His own clothes on Him, and led Him out to crucify Him. ²¹Then they compelled a certain man, Simon a Cyrenian, the father of Alexander and Rufus, as he was coming out of the country and passing by, to bear His cross. ²²And they brought Him to the place Golgotha, which is translated, Place of a Skull. ²³Then they gave Him wine mingled with myrrh to drink, but He did not take it. ²⁴And when they crucified Him, they divided His garments, casting lots for them to determine what every man should take. ²⁵Now it was the third hour, and they crucified Him. ²⁶And the inscription of His accusation was written above: THE KING OF THE JEWS. ²⁷With Him they also crucified two robbers, one on His right and the other on His left. ²⁸So the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "And He was numbered with the transgressors." ²⁹And those who passed by blasphemed Him, wagging their heads and saying, "Aha! You who destroy the temple and build it in three days, ³⁰save Yourself, and come down from the cross!" ³¹Likewise the chief priests also, mocking among themselves with the scribes, said, "He saved others; Himself He cannot save. ³²Let the Christ, the King of Israel, descend now from the cross, that we may see and believe." Even those who were crucified with Him reviled Him. ³³Now when the sixth hour had come, there was darkness over the whole land until the ninth hour. ³⁴And at the ninth hour Jesus cried out with a loud voice, saying, *"Eloi, Eloi, lama sabachthani?"* which is translated, *"My God, My*

God, why have You forsaken Me?" ³⁵Some of those who stood by, when they heard that, said, "Look, He is calling for Elijah!" ³⁶Then someone ran and filled a sponge full of sour wine, put it on a reed, and offered it to Him to drink, saying, "Let Him alone; let us see if Elijah will come to take Him down." ³⁷And Jesus cried out with a loud voice, and breathed His last. ³⁸Then the veil of the temple was torn in two from top to bottom. ³⁹So when the centurion, who stood opposite Him, saw that He cried out like this and breathed His last, he said, "Truly this Man was the Son of God!" ⁴⁰There were also women looking on from afar, among whom were Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James the Less and of Joses, and Salome, ⁴¹who also followed Him and ministered to Him when He was in Galilee, and many other women who came up with Him to Jerusalem. ⁴²Now when evening had come, because it was the Preparation Day, that is, the day before the Sabbath, ⁴³Joseph of Arimathea, a prominent council member, who was himself waiting for the kingdom of God, coming and taking courage, went in to Pilate and asked for the body of Jesus. ⁴⁴Pilate marveled that He was already dead; and summoning the centurion, he asked him if He had been dead for some time. ⁴⁵So when he found out from the centurion, he granted the body to Joseph. ⁴⁶Then he bought fine linen, took Him down, and wrapped Him in the linen. And he laid Him in a tomb which had been hewn out of the rock, and rolled a stone against the door of the tomb. ⁴⁷And Mary Magdalene and Mary the mother of Joses observed where He was laid.