



# MIGHTIER

## THE GOSPEL OF MARK

### DAY 1: GOOD NEWS THAT CHANGES EVERYTHING

#### DEVOTIONAL:

In our information-saturated world, we're constantly bombarded with news that informs but rarely transforms. Headlines come and go, stories rise and fall, but there's one piece of news that stands apart from all the rest - the gospel. This isn't just another story to consume; it's the story that has the power to completely change your life. The gospel doesn't just tell you what happened in history; it reveals what God did about what happened. When sin entered the world and separated us from our Creator, God didn't stand by as a passive observer. He acted decisively through Jesus Christ to bridge that gap and offer us hope, forgiveness, and new life. Unlike the daily news cycle that constantly shifts and changes, the gospel remains unchanging and eternal. It's as relevant today as it was 2,000 years ago because it addresses the deepest need of every human heart - our need for redemption and relationship with God.

#### BIBLE VERSE:

"After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God.  
- Mark 1:14

#### REFLECTION QUESTION:

How has the constant flow of daily news affected your ability to focus on the unchanging truth of the gospel?

#### SERMON QUOTE:

"News informs, but the gospel transforms."

#### PRAYER:

Lord, help me to see the gospel not as just another piece of information, but as the life-changing truth that transforms everything. Open my heart to receive this good news afresh today. Amen.

#### NOTES:

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### DAY 2: THE CALL TO TURN AROUND

#### DEVOTIONAL:

When Jesus began His ministry, His first message wasn't "I accept you as you are." Instead, He called people to repent. This might seem harsh at first, but it's actually the most loving thing He could say. True repentance is more than feeling sorry for our mistakes or even recognizing we've done wrong - it's a complete change of direction. Imagine you're walking down a path that leads to a cliff. Someone who truly loves you wouldn't just say, "I accept your choice of direction." They would urgently call out, "Stop! Turn around!" That's what repentance is - recognizing we're headed in the wrong direction and making a deliberate choice to turn toward God. This turning isn't just about behavior modification; it's about a fundamental shift in our hearts and minds. It's acknowledging that our way hasn't been working and that we need God's way instead. Without this crucial first step, we cannot have a genuine relationship with God.

#### BIBLE VERSE:

"Repent, then, and turn to God, so that your sins may be wiped out, that times of refreshing may come from the Lord" - Acts 3:19

#### REFLECTION QUESTION:

What specific areas of your life might God be calling you to turn away from and toward Him?

#### SERMON QUOTE:

"The word repent means to stop the direction that you're going and change course and do something different."

#### PRAYER:

Father, give me the courage to honestly examine my life and turn away from anything that separates me from You. Help me to embrace the freedom that comes with true repentance. Amen.

#### NOTES:

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### DAY 3: LETTING GO TO TAKE HOLD

#### DEVOTIONAL:

After calling us to repent, Jesus calls us to believe in the gospel. But believing isn't just intellectual agreement with facts about Jesus - it's a complete letting go of our own attempts at righteousness and taking hold of what Christ has done for us. Many people struggle with this because they've been trying to earn God's approval through good works, religious activities, or moral behavior. While these things aren't bad, they can never make us right with God. Believing in the gospel means releasing our grip on our own efforts and trusting completely in Jesus' perfect life, sacrificial death, and victorious resurrection. This can feel scary because it requires admitting that our best efforts aren't good enough. But it's also incredibly freeing because it means our relationship with God doesn't depend on our performance - it depends on Jesus' finished work. When we truly believe, we discover that God's grace is more than sufficient for our deepest needs.

#### BIBLE VERSE:

"'The time is fulfilled,' he said. 'The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!'" - Mark 1:15

#### REFLECTION QUESTION:

What "good works" or personal righteousness might you be holding onto instead of fully trusting in Jesus' finished work?

#### SERMON QUOTE:

"While repentance means to let go of your sin, belief means to let go of your righteousness."

#### PRAYER:

Jesus, help me to let go of my own attempts at righteousness and trust completely in what You've done for me. Thank You that Your grace is sufficient. Amen.

#### NOTES:

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### DAY 4: THE COST OF FOLLOWING

#### DEVOTIONAL:

When Jesus called His first disciples, He didn't offer them a comfortable addition to their existing lives. He called them to leave everything - their businesses, their families, their security - to follow Him. This wasn't a part-time commitment or a hobby; it was a complete life transformation. Following Jesus today still requires this same kind of radical commitment. He doesn't want to be just an add-on to your life - He wants to be the center of it. This might mean changing career paths, adjusting financial priorities, or even walking away from relationships that pull you away from God. The cost can seem overwhelming, but remember what those first disciples discovered: Jesus is worth more than everything else they had previously pursued. When we truly understand who Jesus is and what He offers, the sacrifice becomes not a burden but a privilege. The gospel isn't just worth believing - it's worth giving your entire life for.

#### BIBLE VERSE:

"As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. 'Come, follow me,' Jesus said, 'and I will send you out to fish for people.' At once they left their nets and followed him." - Mark 1:16-18

#### REFLECTION QUESTION:

What might Jesus be asking you to leave behind in order to follow Him more fully?

#### SERMON QUOTE:

"Following Jesus might change your portfolio and not always for the better."

#### PRAYER:

Lord, give me the faith to trust that You are worth more than anything I might have to give up. Help me to follow You with the same immediacy as those first disciples. Amen.

#### NOTES:

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### DAY 5: JESUS PURSUES YOU

#### DEVOTIONAL:

Here's one of the most beautiful truths about the gospel: Jesus doesn't wait for us to come to Him. Just as He walked along the shore actively seeking out His first disciples, He pursues you today. You didn't stumble upon this message by accident - God has been drawing you to Himself. Perhaps you've been feeling a stirring in your heart, a sense that there's more to life than what you're currently experiencing. That's Jesus calling your name, inviting you into relationship with Him. He sees your potential not just for what you are, but for what you can become when you surrender your life to Him. The disciples responded "without hesitation" because they recognized that the One calling them was worth everything. Today, Jesus extends that same invitation to you. Will you respond with the same immediacy? Will you trust that He who calls you is faithful and that His plans for your life are better than your own?

#### BIBLE VERSE:

"Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him." - Mark 1:20

#### REFLECTION QUESTION:

How have you sensed Jesus pursuing you in your life, and how will you respond to His call today?

#### SERMON QUOTE:

"Did you notice Jesus went looking for them? He did not wait until the four prospective disciples came to him begging to be his disciples. Rather, Jesus pursued them."

#### PRAYER:

Thank You, Jesus, for pursuing me and not giving up on me. Help me to respond to Your call with faith and without hesitation, trusting that You are worth everything. Amen.

#### NOTES:

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