

DISCOVER

INSIDE ISSUE 2: GENESIS, MARK, 2 KINGS, PHILIPPIANS

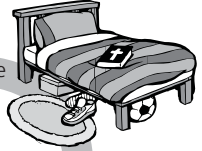
1

Find a time when you can read the Bible each day



2

Find a place where you can be quiet and think



4

Ask God to help you understand what you read



3

Grab your Bible and a pencil or pen



5

Read today's Discover page and Bible bit



6

Pray about what you have read and learned



We want to...

- Explain the Bible clearly to you
- Help you enjoy your Bible
- Encourage you to turn to Jesus
- Help Christians follow Jesus

Discover stands for...

- Total commitment to God's Word, the Bible
- Total commitment to getting its message over to you

Team Discover

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How to use Discover

Here at Discover, we want you at home to get the most out of reading the Bible. It's how God speaks to us today. And He's got loads of top things to say.

We use the New International Version (NIV) of the Bible. You'll find that the NIV and New King James Version are best for doing the puzzles in Discover.



The Bible has 66 different books in it. So if the notes say...

Read Mark 6 v 1-3

...turn to the contents page of your Bible and look down the list of books to see what page Mark begins on. Turn to that page.

"Mark 6 v 1" means you need to go to chapter 6 of Mark, and then find verse 1 of chapter 6 (the verse numbers are the tiny ones). Then jump in and read it!



Here's some other stuff you might come across...

WEIRD WORDS

Felpagootle

These boxes explain baffling words or phrases we come across in the Bible.

Think!



This bit usually has a tricky personal question on what you've been reading about.

Action!



Challenges you to put what you've read into action.

Wow!



This section contains a gobsmacking fact that sums up what you've been reading about.

Pray!



Gives you ideas for prayer. Prayer is talking to God. Don't be embarrassed! You can pray in your head if you want to. God still hears you! Even if there isn't a Pray! symbol, it's a good idea to pray about what you've read anyway.



Coming up in Issue 2...

Mark: Who is Jesus?

We join Mark in the middle of his action-packed account of the life of Jesus. We see Jesus do and teach lots of amazing things that leave His friends, His enemies and even His own family baffled: just who *is* Jesus?!

Mark shows us that Jesus is the Messiah — the King God promised would rescue His people. It's great news! But Jesus also calls people to follow Him as their King. And that's definitely going to ruffle a few feathers...

Genesis: God's promises

We jump into Genesis to meet Abram: an ordinary old man, who God makes extraordinary promises to!

Abram has no kids — but God promises to give him loads of descendants. Abram is living in a tent — but God promises to give his descendants a whole land of their own. Abram is nobody special — but God promises to bless the whole world through his family!

Watch as God follows through on His amazing promises, even when Abram tries to take matters into his own hands and messes up big time! See how God always keeps His promises, and is so loving and forgiving to those who trust Him.

Elisha: God's prophet

We turn to the book of 2 Kings to read about Elisha. He was a prophet, sent by God with a message for His people and their disobedient king! And to prove that Elisha really was His messenger, God did loads of astonishing miracles through him.

So brace yourself for bullying boys and man-eating bears, poison stew, floating axes and invisible fiery chariots. It all shows us God's great power, His love for His people, and how important it is for people to turn back and live His way.

Philippians: Joy for Jesus

The apostle Paul is writing a letter to his friends in Philippi... from prison. Does Paul's jail sentence get him down? No way! Because Paul is just so joyful about what God has done for him and for the Philippian Christians. He can't stop praising God!

Paul writes to the Philippian Christians to thank them for a gift they sent to him in prison. But he has loads more fantastic stuff to say about Jesus, and how to live for Him. He wants Christians to serve Jesus together as one united team!

**Ready? Steady?
Let's go...**

Mark: Who is Jesus?

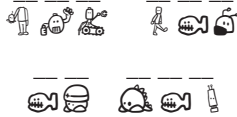
Mark
6 v 1-6



In his book, Mark wants to show us who Jesus really is.

In the first five chapters, Mark has shown us that Jesus has power over nature, evil spirits, illness and even death.

Jesus' amazing power points us to the fact that He is...



But today we'll meet some people who refused to believe that Jesus was God's Son.

Read Mark 6 v 1-3

Jesus was in Nazareth, the town where He'd grown up. So the people there knew lots about Him. They knew that...

Jesus was a



His mum was



His brothers:



and



They refused to believe that Jesus could be anyone special. They ignored all the signs.



Read verses 4-6

Jesus was amazed and saddened at their lack of faith (v6). They refused to see that God was working through Him. So Jesus did no more miracles in Nazareth. He gave them no more proof of who He was.

Who do **you** think Jesus is?

- 1) A great teacher
- 2) Just an ordinary guy
- 3) A kind man
- 4) The Son of God

WEIRD WORDS

Sabbath

Jewish holy day

Synagogue

Where people learned from Old Testament

Prophet

God's messenger

Pray!



Dear God, help me not to ignore the amazing things I read about Jesus in Mark's book. Help me to believe that He really is God's Son.

A C D E F G H I J M N O P R S T U Y



Travelling light

Mark
6 v 7-13



Jesus has been travelling around, teaching and healing people.

Next, He sends out His disciples to do the same things.

All of today's missing words can be found in the wordsearch.

P	B	B	M	O	N	E	Y	X	C
Y	R	R	O	B	P	U	K	S	H
O	E	E	T	A	D	U	S	T	P
H	P	A	A	G	G	Q	N	A	G
S	E	D	L	C	Q	B	O	F	H
F	N	C	A	N	H	W	M	F	E
E	T	U	N	I	C	E	E	Z	A
E	X	T	R	A	E	F	D	E	L
T	R	I	H	S	S	H	A	K	E
S	A	N	D	A	L	S	R	L	D

Read Mark 6 v 7-10

What could they take?

S _____

S _____

What couldn't they take?

No b _____

No m _____

No e _____ s _____

They had to rely on God for everything. That's why they were not allowed to take money or extra stuff. Everywhere they went, God provided them with food, clothes and somewhere to stay!

Read verse 11

What should they do if they were not welcome in a town?

S _____ the d _____
from their f _____.

This showed that God isn't pleased with anyone who rejects His people or treats them badly.

Read verses 12-13

What else did the disciples do?

P _____ that
people should r _____,
drove out d _____ and
h _____ people.

There was nothing special about these disciples. But **Jesus** gave them the power to do these awesome things for Him!



Wow!

Do you sometimes feel unimportant or useless? God can use YOU to tell other people about Him! You just have to trust Him to help you.



Pray!

Ask God to help you to rely on Him for everything. Ask Him to help you talk to people about Jesus.



WEIRD WORDS

Staff

Walking stick

Testimony

Evidence

Repent

Turn away from sin and start living for God

Anointed

Poured oil on their heads

Dead wrong

Mark
6 v 14-29



*Get ready to
read a tragic
story...*

Read Mark 6 v 14-16

Jesus was becoming famous because of His amazing miracles and great teaching. But people didn't realise He was God's Son.

Who did Herod think Jesus was?

J_____ the B_____
raised from the d_____

This was because he felt guilty for John's death.

Read verses 17-29

and number the story segments in the right order.



Herod had a huge feast for his birthday.

Herod arrested John when John told him he was disobeying God by marrying his brother's wife.



1



She asked for John to be beheaded.

So Herod had John executed. And John's followers buried him in a tomb.



Herod liked listening to John.

Herod's wife hated John.



Herod liked it and promised her anything she wanted.

His wife's daughter danced for him.



Later, when Herod heard about Jesus, he thought it must be John who'd come back from the dead! But he was dead wrong.

Wow!

Sadly, many people are still dead wrong about Jesus.



They think He was just a good man or that He didn't even exist!

Pray!



Think of someone you know who doesn't understand who Jesus is. Ask God to help them see the truth about Jesus.

WEIRD WORDS

King Herod

Local ruler of Galilee

Elijah

Prophet who was around 800 years before Jesus

Prophet

God's messenger

Righteous and holy man

Someone who served God

Opportune

Perfect time

Oath

Special promise

Time with Jesus

Mark 6 v 30-34



The disciples (apostles) have just returned from their preaching and healing tour.

They've walked all the way, so they must be exhausted!

WEIRD WORDS

Apostles

Jesus would send out 11 of these men to tell people about Him

Solitary

Quiet, away from people

Compassion

Loving kindness

Read Mark 6 v 30-31

Jesus noticed they were tired.
What did He say to them?

- a) This work is so important, there's no time to rest!
- b) Let's go somewhere quiet so you can rest for a while.
- c) You need a beach holiday in Greece.

Jesus understood exactly how they were feeling. The best thing for them was to chill out—to have some time alone with Jesus.

Wow!

If life gets tough for you — family problems, friends hassling you, school getting too much for you...



Jesus understands exactly how you're feeling.

Action!

There's nothing better than to spend some time alone with Jesus, talking with Him. Do you set aside time each day to spend with Jesus? Why not set yourself a specific time?



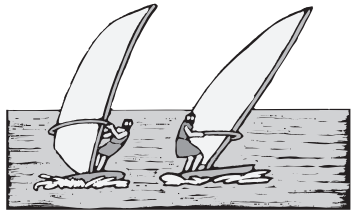
Read verses 32-34

What happened?

- a) They had a lovely rest
- b) They went windsurfing
- c) Loads of people got there before they did!

What did Jesus do?

- a) Told them to go away
- b) Had compassion for them and began teaching
- c) Hired windsurfers for everyone



Jesus and His disciples didn't get much of a rest. But Jesus didn't get angry or turn the people away. Instead, He had compassion for them because He saw how much they needed Him.

Wow!

If you turn to Jesus because you need Him, He'll never be angry with you or turn you away. He longs to hear you.



Pray!

Will you tell Jesus what's on your mind right now?



Fishy feast

Mark
6 v 35-44



Thousands of people followed Jesus and His disciples down to Lake Galilee.

Jesus was too loving to turn them away, so He spent ages teaching them.

Read Mark 6 v 35-36

The disciples had to do some quick maths.

1000s of people
+ no food
+ a long way from the shops
= A HUGE PROBLEM!

Actually, they did manage to find a tiny bit of food.

Read verses 37-38

What did they find?

_____ loaves of bread
+ _____ fish

5 loaves
+ 2 fish
= enough for a family picnic

but

5 loaves
+ 2 fish
÷ divided between 1000s of people
= NO CHANCE!

But all this doesn't add up to a problem for Jesus — God's Son!

Read verses 39-44

How many men ate? _____

Plus thousands of women and children too!



Because of His great love and compassion for these people, Jesus worked this incredible miracle. There were even 12 baskets of scraps left over!

Wow!

Nothing is impossible for God's Son! That means that even our biggest problems are no problem for Jesus.



Think!

What problems do you have?



Pray!



Take your problems to Jesus right now and ask Him to help you with them.

Mark
6 v 45-56



Jesus made a meal for thousands of people from only five loaves of bread and two fish!

It was a big sign that He was God's Son.

Walking on water

Read Mark 6 v 45-46

What did Jesus do?

Went up a hill to p_____

Think!

Even though His life was hectic, Jesus found time to talk to His Father God. Do you make sure you find time to spend alone talking with God?

Read verses 47-52

and fill in the gaps.

Late at night, the disciples were in a b_____ on the l_____. Jesus walked on the w_____. The disciples thought He was a g_____ and were t_____.

Jesus said "Don't be a_____ " and He c_____ed into the boat.

The disciples were completely a_____.

The disciples hadn't understood what had happened with the bread and fish. That miracle was a big sign that Jesus was **God's all-powerful Son**. But they had missed the point. That's why they were amazed when Jesus walked on the water.



Think!

Do you believe that Jesus is God's Son? That He has power and authority over everything?



Read verses 53-56

Jesus had become really famous. Loads of people wanted to see His miracles or be healed by Him. I wonder if any of them realised that these miracles were signs that Jesus is **God's Son**?

Pray!



Mark wrote his book so readers (like us!) would see who Jesus is and trust in Him. If Mark's book has shown you new things about Jesus, spend time thanking God right now.

For the free e-booklet *Why Did Jesus Come?*, email discover@thegoodbook.co.uk or check out www.thegoodbook.co.uk/contact-us to find our UK mailing address.

Mark 7 v 1-13



WEIRD WORDS

Pharisees and teachers of the law

Jewish leaders. Most of them were against Jesus

Isaiah

A prophet, God's messenger

Prophesied

Predicted

Hypocrites

People who say one thing but do the opposite

Nullify

Cancel out. By obeying these rules, they had stopped obeying God's Word

Inside out

Mark wants to show us who Jesus really is. The disciples hadn't worked it out yet. And neither had the Pharisees...

Read Mark 7 v 1-5

Fill in the Pharisees' question.

Why don't your
d _____ follow our
tr _____ instead of
eating their f _____ with
un _____ hands?

The Jewish leaders had made loads of **rules** for the people to keep. One of these rules said that you must wash your hands in a special way before eating. If you didn't, then you weren't clean enough for God.

They thought that keeping these rules made them acceptable to God. But Jesus didn't agree...

Read verses 6-8

What did Isaiah say God thinks of people like this (v6)?

They h _____
me with their _____
but their h _____
are far from me.



Read verses 9-13
God says...

HONOUR YOUR FATHER AND MOTHER

The Pharisees said...

But I've given all my
money to the temple, so I
don't have to look after my
parents any more.

Keeping these rules made them look godly, but inside they weren't really living for God at all!

Think!

Do you go to church, and try to appear godly and say the right things? But what about on the inside? Do you really live for God, or is it just a show?



Pray!



Ask God to help you to serve Him with your whole life. Not just on the outside. Not just on Sundays.

Clean sweep

Mark
7 v 14-23



The Pharisees thought that keeping rules (such as washing in a special way) made them clean and acceptable to God.

Read Mark 7 v 14-19

Jesus says it's not how we wash or what we eat that's important. He is much more bothered about sin — the things that really do make us unclean.

It's not what goes into someone that's the problem.

It's what comes out. Wrong thoughts, words or actions.

Think!

What *unclean* stuff has come out of your mouth, mind, or actions recently? (Lies, swearing, cruel actions?)

It's the sinful things which come out of us that God hates.



Read verses 20-23

Jesus lists some of the bad stuff that can come out of us. *Unjumble the anagrams to find them.*

E _____ T _____
LIVE HOTTHUGS

T _____, M _____
FETHT REDRUM

A _____
YULEDRAT

G _____, D _____
DERGE ICETED

S _____
DARNLES

F _____
LOLFY

This is the kind of stuff we need to fight against, because it offends God.

Pray!

If you really mean it, say sorry to God for the things you wrote under Think! Ask God to help you please Him more in what you think, say and do.



WEIRD WORDS

Parable

A story Jesus uses to explain a big truth

Dull

Stupid

Immorality

Sin

Adultery

Cheating on your husband or wife

Malice

Wanting to harm

Deceit

Lies, deceiving

Lewdness

Obscene, rude

Slander

Lying about someone

Folly

Foolishness

