

Mark's Gospel

The Call to Discipleship



Discipleship



Discipleship

- Greek – mathetes
- Latin – discipulus
- Both mean learners

Mark 6:35-44

- 37 But he answered them, “You give them something to eat.” **They said to him, “Are we to go and buy two hundred denarii worth of bread, and give it to them to eat?”**38 **And he said to them, “How many loaves have you? Go and see.”** When they had found out, they said, “Five, and two fish.”39 Then he ordered them to get all the people to sit down in groups on the **green** grass.40 So they sat down in groups of **hundreds and of** fifties.41 Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to his disciples to set before the people; **and he divided the two fish among them all.**42 And all ate and were filled;43 and they took up twelve baskets full of broken pieces and of the fish.44 Those who had eaten the loaves numbered five thousand men

Mark 2:6-7,12-14

- Now some of the **scribes** were sitting there, questioning in their hearts, “Why does this fellow speak in this way? It is blasphemy! Who can forgive sins but God alone?” ... And he stood up, and immediately took the mat and went out before **all of them**; so that **they were all amazed and glorified God, saying, “We have never seen anything like this!”** 13 Jesus went out again beside the sea; the **whole crowd gathered around him, and he taught them.** As he was walking along, he saw Levi son of Alphaeus sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “**Follow me.**” And **he got up and followed him.**

Discipleship



The structure of mark

- Jesus' ministry • 1.2-4.34
- The nature of discipleship • 4.35-8.26
- The Way of the Cross • 8.27-10.52
- Jesus' journey to the cross • 11.1-16.8



Jesus' ministry

- Baptism (1.2-13) – first Messianic revelation
- Jesus' message (1.14-15)
- Calling of Disciples (1.16-20)
- Healing (1.21-39)
- Controversy (1.40-3.6)
- Parables and secrecy (4.1-34)
- All woven around responses to Jesus



Mark 4:33-34

- Mark 4:33-34 33 With many such parables he spoke the word to them, as they were able to hear it; 34 he did not speak to them except in parables, but he explained everything in private to his disciples.

Discipleship



Discipleship – or how not to do it

- Stilling of the Storm (4:35-41)
 - Gerasene demoniac
 - Jairus
 - Woman with a haemorrhage

Walking on the Water (6:45-52)

- Syrophonecian woman
- Man who was deaf and had speech impediment

The Leaven of the Pharisees (8:14-21)

- Man born blind



Jesus and the Disciples

- **Mark 4:40** ⁴⁰ He said to them, "Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?"
- **Mark 6:51-52** ⁵¹ Then he got into the boat with them and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, ⁵² for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

Jesus and the Disciples

- Mark 8:13-18 ¹³ And he left them, and getting into the boat again, he went across to the other side. ¹⁴ Now the disciples had forgotten to bring any bread; and they had only one loaf with them in the boat. ¹⁵ And he cautioned them, saying, "Watch out-- beware of the yeast of the Pharisees and the yeast of Herod." ¹⁶ They said to one another, "It is because we have no bread." ¹⁷ And becoming aware of it, Jesus said to them, "Why are you talking about having no bread? Do you still not perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? ¹⁸ Do you have eyes, and fail to see? Do you have ears, and fail to hear? And do you not remember?"

Discipleship



Disciples

- Do you still not perceive or understand? Are your hearts hardened? ¹⁸ Do you have eyes, and fail to see? Do you have ears, and fail to hear? And do you not remember?
- Mark 4:11-12 ¹¹ And he said to them, "To you has been given the secret of the kingdom of God, but for those outside, everything comes in parables; ¹² in order that 'they may indeed look, but not perceive, and may indeed listen, but not understand; so that they may not turn again and be forgiven.'"



Psalm 118

- Psalm 118:25-26
- 25 Save us, we beseech you, O LORD!
- O LORD, we beseech you, give us success!
- 26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.
- Mark 11:9-10 Then those who went ahead and those who followed were shouting,
- "Hosanna! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord!
- 10 Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David! Hosanna in the highest heaven!"

Discipleship



Hosanna

- Used only in Psalm 118.25 -
- Hoshea-nna – save now
- Seems later to have become a cry of praise.

Psalm 118:19-26

- 19 Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. 20 This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. 21 I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. 22 The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. 23 This is the LORD's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. 24 This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.1 25 Save us, we beseech you, O LORD! O LORD, we beseech you, give us success! 26 Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the LORD.1 We bless you from the house of the LORD.



Isaiah 5:1-7

- Let me sing for my beloved my love-song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. 2 He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; he expected it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. 3 And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and people of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. 4 What more was there to do for my vineyard that I have not done in it? When I expected it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? 5 And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. 6 I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. 7 For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts is the house of Israel, and the people of Judah are his pleasant planting; he expected justice, but saw bloodshed; righteousness, but heard a cry!



Mark 12:10-12

- 10 Have you not read this scripture: 'The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; 11 this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'?" 12 When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.

Hosea 9.15-16

- Hosea 9:15-17 15 Every evil of theirs began at Gilgal; there I came to hate them. Because of the wickedness of their deeds I will drive them out of my house. I will love them no more; all their officials are rebels. 16 Ephraim is stricken, their root is dried up, they shall bear no fruit. Even though they give birth, I will kill the cherished offspring of their womb. 17 Because they have not listened to him, my God will reject them; they shall become wanderers among the nations.



Micah 4:3-4

- 3 He shall judge between many peoples, and shall arbitrate between strong nations far away; they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more; 4 but they shall all sit under their own vines and under their own fig trees, and no one shall make them afraid; for the mouth of the LORD of hosts has spoken.

Authorities and Crowd

- Mark 11:18 18 And when the chief priests and the scribes heard it, they kept looking for a way to kill him; for they were afraid of him, because the whole crowd was spellbound by his teaching.
- Mark 12:12 12 When they realized that he had told this parable against them, they wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowd. So they left him and went away.
- Mark 15:11-15 11 But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. 12 Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do¹ with the man you call² the King of the Jews?" 13 They shouted back, "Crucify him!" 14 Pilate asked them, "Why, what evil has he done?" But they shouted all the more, "Crucify him!" 15 So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them; and after flogging Jesus, he handed him over to be crucified

Discipleship



Spikenard



Discipleship



Psalm 133:2

- It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes.

Discipleship



Mark 1:1

- NRSV The beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ, the Son of God.
- Literally 'Beginning of the good news of Jesus Christ Son of God'



The Grammar of Mark 16:8

- They were afraid for
- ἔφοβουντο γαρ
- Compare with Genesis 18:15
- She was afraid for
- Ἐφοβηθη γαρ

Discipleship



The Messianic Secret

- Mark 1:44 saying to him, "See that you say nothing to anyone; but go, show yourself to the priest,
- Mark 8:30 And he sternly ordered them not to tell anyone about him.



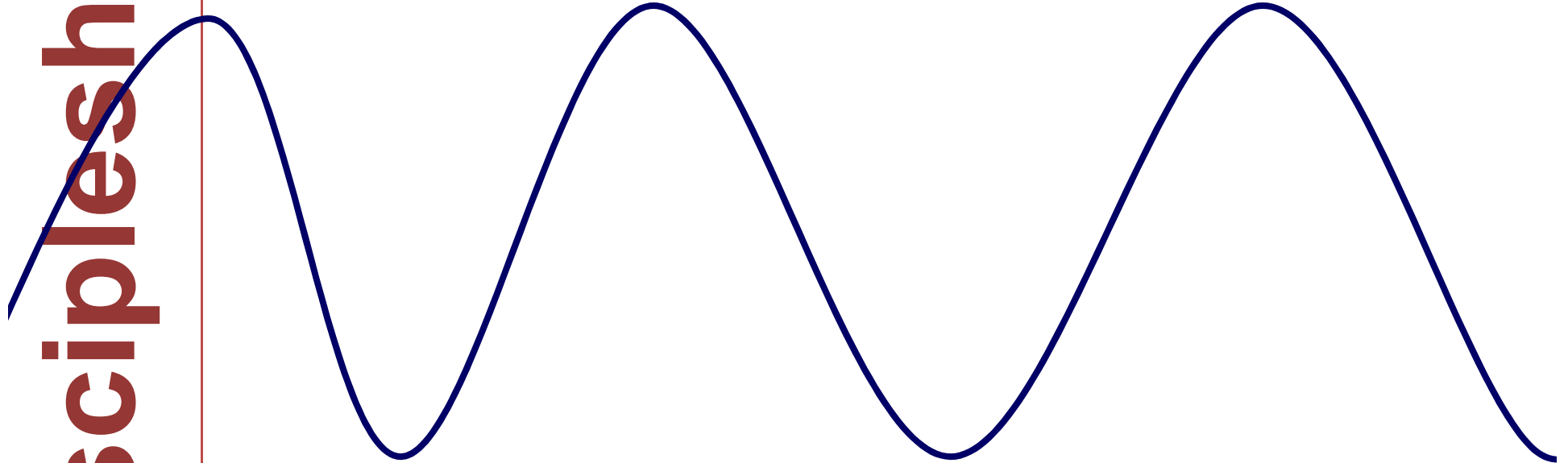
Discipleship

The Revelations of Mark's gospel

Baptism

Transfiguration

Crucifixion



Discipleship

- The terrible irony is that now is the time to speak. The tomb is empty; the crucified King is alive, vindicated by God, as he said he would be. What is hidden is now come to light (4:21-22); the disciples can tell secret things they were commanded to withhold now that Jesus has risen from the dead (9.9). The faithful women have the opportunity to do what the men could not. And they fail. They flee, just as the men – because they are afraid.

• D.H. Juel 'A Disquieting Silence: The Matter of the Ending' in *The Ending of Mark and the Ends of God*, p. 7-8