

Sermon Series—**The Gospel of Mark**

Discussion Questions

Mark 4

Week of: January 28th- February 3rd

1. In Mark 4:1-9 Jesus tells the parable of the sower. Read this parable and list and describe the four soils that seed falls on.
2. In Mark 4:13-20 Jesus explains what each parable means. Discuss what each type of soil represents. Which type of soil are you most similar to? How does each of the three unfavorable soils serve as a warning for us to respond correctly to the Gospel?
3. In between Jesus' telling of the parable and His explanation of the parable to the disciples Mark places a difficult passage that is rarely discussed. In Mark 4:10-12 Jesus explains why he speaks in parables. Why does he say that he speaks in parables? Does His explanation surprise you? Why or why not?
4. What is meant by Mark 4:21-25? How does Luke 8:16-18 help you understand this passage. What is different about the two passages? Why do you think that Mark placed this passage right after his explanation of the parable of the sower?
5. Describe the situation in Mark 4:35-41. Luke 8:23 teaches that they were in danger. Why did Jesus say, "Why are you afraid?" Why do you think that Jesus asks, "Why don't you have faith?" If you wanted to show that you had faith what would you have done if you were in the disciples shoes?
6. What does it mean to have faith? What are some other Scriptures that teach us what faith is?
7. Why do you think that Mark places this story of the calming of the storm in his Gospel? What does this reveal about who Jesus is?
8. What part of Mark 4 impacts you the most?