

HOW TO USE THIS DAILY REFLECTION GUIDE

This guide is designed to foster a rich, personal encounter with the Gospel of Mark. We encourage you to make it a regular part of your week.

For Each Week:

1. **Read the Entire Weekly Passage:** On Sunday evening or Monday morning, before diving into the daily readings, we strongly recommend you read the entire weekly passage in one sitting. This will give you the full context and narrative flow for the coming days of reflection.
2. **Get a Notebook or Journal:** This is your space to process, question, and apply. Writing down your thoughts helps solidify your understanding and allows you to track your spiritual growth throughout the series.
3. **Pray:** Before you read each day, ask the Holy Spirit to open your eyes, heart, and mind to what Jesus wants to teach you. Ask Him to help you apply the truth to your life.

For Each Day:

- **Read Slowly:** Focus only on the designated verses for that day. Read them multiple times if helpful.
- **Reflect:** What stands out to you? What does this passage reveal about Jesus? What does it reveal about human nature or God's Kingdom?
- **Engage with the Provocative Question:** Just as Jesus often used provocative questions to open people to new understandings of the Kingdom of God, these questions are designed to help you personally apply the text to your discipleship journey. Don't rush your answer. Write down your honest thoughts, feelings, and any insights or challenges that emerge.
- **Pray (Again):** Respond to God in prayer based on what you've read and reflected upon.

Bonus Idea for Saturdays/Weekends:

- **Catch Up/Re-Read:** Use Saturday to catch up on any missed readings or to re-read the entire weekly passage from Sunday in light of your daily reflections.
- **Share:** Consider discussing your insights with a friend, family member, or in your small group!



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WALKING WITH JESUS: A DAILY REFLECTION JOURNEY

A COMPANION GUIDE TO OUR SERMON SERIES IN MARK



PART 3: THE COST OF DISCIPLESHIP (SEPTEMBER)

Week of Sept 7 — Radical Discipleship Defined (Mark 8:1–37)

Mon, Sept 1 – Mark 8:1–10

Question: Jesus multiplies bread in the wilderness. Where are you being invited to trust that what looks small in your hands can become abundance in his?

Tue, Sept 2 – Mark 8:11–13

Question: The Pharisees demand proof before they'll trust. What conditions are you still placing on your obedience to Jesus?

Wed, Sept 3 – Mark 8:14–21

Question: The disciples miss the deeper meaning of the bread. Where are you content with surface-level faith instead of hungering for deeper sight?

Thu, Sept 4 – Mark 8:22–26

Question: The blind man's healing comes in stages. Where in your discipleship are you resisting the slow, awkward, unfinished process of being transformed?

Fri, Sept 5 – Mark 8:27–30

Question: Peter names Jesus the Messiah. Who do you really say Jesus is when your daily life—not just your lips—gives the answer?

Sat, Sept 6 – Mark 8:31–37

Question: Jesus calls his followers to deny themselves and take up the cross. What part of your life do you still cling to instead of offering on the altar of discipleship?

Sun, Sept 7 – Worship Anchor

Focus: "Who do you say I am?" How does your confession of Jesus shape how you live this week?

Week of Sept 14 — Humility & Service (Mark 9:1–50)

Mon, Sept 8 – Mark 9:1–13

Question: At the Transfiguration, Jesus shines with divine glory. How do you respond when God's presence unsettles your comfort or expectations?

Tue, Sept 9 – Mark 9:14–29

Question: A desperate father cries, "I believe; help my unbelief!" Where in your discipleship do faith and doubt live side by side, and how will you invite Jesus into that tension?

Wed, Sept 10 – Mark 9:30–32

Question: Jesus predicts his suffering again, and the disciples stay silent. Where do you stay silent because following Jesus feels too costly?

Thu, Sept 11 – Mark 9:33–37

Question: Jesus redefines greatness as servanthood. In what relationships do you still seek recognition instead of lowering yourself to serve?

Fri, Sept 12 – Mark 9:38–41

Question: The disciples try to stop someone outside their group. Where are you tempted to limit God's work to your own circle, and how might radical discipleship expand your embrace?

Sat, Sept 13 – Mark 9:42–50

Question: Jesus warns against causing others to stumble. What habits, words, or attitudes in your life might keep others from seeing Jesus clearly?

Sun, Sept 14 – Worship Anchor

Focus: "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." How will you serve unnoticed this week?

Week of Sept 21 — Kingdom Values (Mark 10:1–31)

Mon, Sept 15 – Mark 10:1–12

Question: Jesus teaches about covenant faithfulness in marriage. Where are you resisting God's call to lifelong faithfulness—in relationships, in promises, or in your discipleship?

Tue, Sept 16 – Mark 10:13–16

Question: Jesus welcomes children others try to push aside. Who are you tempted to dismiss, and how is Jesus calling you to radical welcome?

Wed, Sept 17 – Mark 10:17–22

Question: The rich man walks away sad. What is the "one thing" you still lack that keeps you from wholehearted discipleship?

Thu, Sept 18 – Mark 10:23–27

Question: Jesus says wealth makes entering the Kingdom hard. Where do your comforts or possessions subtly control your willingness to follow?

Fri, Sept 19 – Mark 10:28–31

Question: Jesus promises blessing and persecutions to those who leave everything for him. What would it look like for you to risk security for the sake of radical discipleship?

Sat, Sept 20 – Reflection Catch-up Day

Question: As you review this week's readings, what Kingdom value—faithfulness, welcome, or surrender—most challenges you right now?

Sun, Sept 21 – Worship Anchor

Focus: The Kingdom belongs to those who come empty-handed. What does it mean for you to receive, not achieve, the Kingdom this week?

Week of Sept 28 — The Path to Jerusalem & True Leadership (Mark 10:32–52)

Mon, Sept 22 – Mark 10:32–34

Question: Jesus predicts his suffering a third time. How does facing suffering rather than avoiding it change your understanding of discipleship?

Tue, Sept 23 – Mark 10:35–45

Question: James and John ask for glory; Jesus offers a cross. Where do you still crave status or recognition, and how is Jesus calling you instead to serve?

Wed, Sept 24 – Mark 10:46–52

Question: Blind Bartimaeus throws aside his cloak to follow Jesus. What "cloak"—comfort, identity, or safety—must you throw aside to follow more fully?

Thu, Sept 25 – Reflection Day

Question: Looking back over Mark 8–10, what is the Spirit revealing about the cost of discipleship in your own journey?

Fri, Sept 26 – Prayer Practice

Question: Pray with Jesus' words: "Whoever wants to be great must be servant of all." Where are you being invited to embody that prayer this week?

Sat, Sept 27 – Catch-up or Deep Reflection

Question: Which teaching from Jesus in these weeks unsettles you most—and how will you respond instead of ignoring it?

Sun, Sept 28 – Worship Anchor

Focus: "The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve." How will you take your next step into servant leadership this week?