PART 3 · MARK 11–16

The last week, and an ending that stops

- [ ] **15. The temple** Mark 11:1–33
  READ FOR Who does the crowd think Jesus is?
  WRITE What would Jesus be angry about in churches today?

- [ ] **16. The debates** Mark 12:1–44
  READ FOR Which questions does Jesus answer with a question?
  WRITE Which of the two great commandments is harder for you?

- [ ] **17. Keep awake** Mark 13:1–37
  READ FOR What does Jesus say nobody knows (13:32)?
  WRITE What worries you about the future?

- [ ] **18. Perfume, supper, garden** Mark 14:1–52
  READ FOR Who understands Jesus best in this chapter?
  WRITE When have you let down someone who needed you?

- [ ] **19. Two trials** Mark 14:53–15:20
  READ FOR What is Peter doing while Jesus is on trial?
  WRITE When have you pretended not to know someone?

- [ ] **20. The cross** Mark 15:21–47 ◆
  READ FOR Who finally says out loud who Jesus is, and why is it surprising?
  WRITE Why do you think Mark saved that line for here?

- [ ] **21. The ending** Mark 16:1–8
  READ FOR How does Mark end?
  WRITE Reread your lines from sessions 1 and 11, then write a third. What changed?

Who do you think Jesus is?

Copy your three answers here and compare them.

Session 1 _____

Session 11 _____

Session 21 _____

A BIBLE READING PLAN · MIDDLE SCHOOL

Who Is This?

Reading the Gospel of Mark: 21 sessions of about a chapter, three a week for seven weeks. It's the Gospel where almost nobody understands Jesus.

ASK OF EVERY CHARACTER

What does this person think Jesus is?

1. Read the "Read for" question, then read the passage.
2. Right after, write one line for the "Write" prompt. Nobody has to see it.
3. With a mentor? They answer first, then you.

Keep three lists

In a notebook, all the way through Mark:

Who says who Jesus is. Every title, and who uses it.

"Tell no one." Every time Jesus says keep quiet.

They don't get it. A tally of the disciples' mistakes.

WHEN YOU FINISH MARK

Choose a door

1. **Who is Jesus, really?**
   John · 22 sessions
2. **How should I actually live?**
   James, then Proverbs 1–10 · 13 sessions
3. **Is it okay to be angry or sad with God?**
   The lament psalms · 9 sessions
4. **Why are families so messy?**
   Genesis 12–50 · 15 sessions
5. **Why do good people suffer?**
   Job · 10 sessions · with a mentor

◆ Best read with a mentor nearby.

PART 1 · MARK 1:1–6:6

Getting Jesus wrong

- [ ] **1. The reader knows first** Mark 1:1–20
  READ FOR Who in this chapter knows who Jesus is, and who doesn't?
  WRITE In one sentence: who do you think Jesus is, today? Keep it.

- [ ] **2. "Be quiet"** Mark 1:21–45
  READ FOR Why does Jesus keep telling people not to tell?
  WRITE Is there something you believe but don't say out loud?

- [ ] **3. Five arguments** Mark 2:1–3:6
  READ FOR What are the five things people complain about?
  WRITE When have you been in trouble for doing the right thing?

- [ ] **4. "He's out of his mind"** Mark 3:7–35
  READ FOR Who thinks Jesus has lost his mind?
  WRITE Who would you call family if you got to choose?

- [ ] **5. Parables** Mark 4:1–34
  READ FOR Why does Jesus say he speaks in parables (4:10–12)?
  WRITE Which kind of soil are you right now? Be honest.

- [ ] **6. The storm and Legion** Mark 4:35–5:20
  READ FOR What question do the disciples ask at the end of the storm?
  WRITE What storm are you in right now?

- [ ] **7. Faith and its absence** Mark 5:21–6:6
  READ FOR Where does faith show up, and where is it missing?
  WRITE Do the people who know you best see who you really are?

PART 2 · MARK 6:7–10:52

"Who do you say I am?"

- [ ] **8. Sent out, and what it costs** Mark 6:7–56
  READ FOR What happens to John the Baptist, and what does it warn about following Jesus?
  WRITE What would it cost you to be known as a Christian at school?

- [ ] **9. Clean and unclean** Mark 7:1–37
  READ FOR What does Jesus say actually makes a person unclean?
  WRITE Who gets treated as an outsider at your school?

- [ ] **10. Seeing in stages** Mark 8:1–26
  READ FOR What does Jesus ask his disciples in 8:17–21?
  WRITE What do you see only blurrily about God right now?

- [ ] **11. The center of the book** Mark 8:27–9:1
  READ FOR What does Peter say Jesus is, and what does he get wrong?
  WRITE Answer Jesus' question yourself. Compare it with session 1.

- [ ] **12. The mountain and the boy** Mark 9:2–29
  READ FOR What does the voice say this time, and to whom?
  WRITE Write your own version of 9:24.

- [ ] **13. Who is greatest?** Mark 9:30–10:31
  READ FOR What do the disciples argue about right after Jesus predicts his death again?
  WRITE Where do you want to be the greatest?

- [ ] **14. Two requests** Mark 10:32–52
  READ FOR What do James and John ask for? What does Bartimaeus ask for?
  WRITE If Jesus asked, "What do you want me to do for you?", what is the honest answer?

Three predictions

Jesus says he will die and rise. Then what do the disciples do?

JESUS SAYS	THE DISCIPLES
8:31	8:32
9:31	9:33–34
10:33–34	10:35–37