



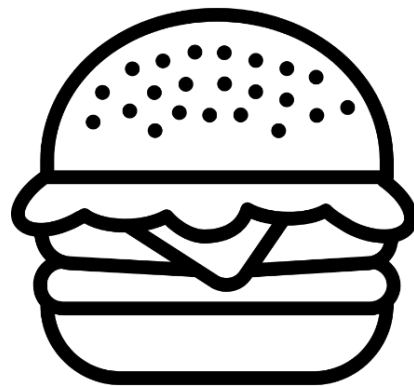
***The Servant King (Part II)***  
***(Mark 5:21-16:8)***  
***Term 2 2024***

**Bible Study Guides 1-4**

## Study 1 – “Fear and Faith”, Mark 5:21-43

1. Pray
2. Conversation Starter: What are some things that you are afraid of in life? How have you dealt with that fear?
3. It’s been a while since we’ve looked at Mark. Cast your eyes over the last couple of chapters and discuss what Jesus has been up to, particularly in Mk 5:1-20.
4. Read Mark 5:21-41

5. Questions about the “Top Bread Bun”
  - a. What does Jairus fear, and why does he think Jesus can help?
  - b. What does Mark tell us about Jairus?



Mk 5:21-24

Mk 5:25-34

Mk 5:35-41

6. Questions about the “Burger Filling”

- a. What does Mark tell us about the sick woman?
  - b. What does the woman fear and why does she think Jesus can help?
  - c. Why do you think touching his clothes worked?
  - d. Why does Jesus stop everyone to talk to the woman? Why is she afraid?
  - e. What has healed her? What hasn't healed her?
  - f. Why does Jesus send her in peace?
7. Questions about the "bottom bread bun"
- a. What must Jairus be feeling seeing his servants walking towards him?
  - b. How can Jesus say "Don't be afraid just believe"? What is the belief Jesus is asking Jairus to have look like?
  - c. Why does he exclude everyone except Peter, James and John?
  - d. What does Jesus mean in v39? Is the child really dead?
  - e. What does this healing show us about Jesus?
  - f. Why does Jesus command silence about this (v43)?
8. What are some of the similarities between the stories?
9. How is both sets of fears dealt with by Jesus?
10. How can our faith in Jesus deal with our fears?

11. In tackling your fears above, how can trust in Jesus help you face them?

12. Pray

## Study 2 – “Dishonoured Prophets”, Mark 6:1-29

1. Pray
2. Conversation Starter: Share a mission story: a time when you went out somewhere to share the gospel.
3. Read Mark 6:1-29.
4. What stands out to you in the passage?
5. Is there anything unclear or confusing to you in this passage?
6. There are three distinct parts of this passage. Do you see any thematic link between these three parts?
7. Jesus’ command to his disciples to take no extra belongings or money on their journey, seems to be a unique command and not necessarily binding on all future missionary endeavours.

However, what can we apply from his instructions to our evangelistic ministries today?

8. Do you view mission as an integral aspect of your Christian life and experience? How in particular are you 'on mission' throughout your life?
9. We see in John the Baptist's example, that speaking the truth can sometimes offend. The gospel message too can be offensive to people. However, this doesn't mean we should be carelessly offensive. Tim Keller writes, "*We must avoid turning off listeners because we are culturally offensive rather than the gospel.*" What are some ways that we might be unnecessarily culturally offensive in our evangelism?
10. In a post-Christian society like ours, it's a bit like Jesus' hometown – people are familiar with Jesus, they think they already know who he is. How can we counteract this in our evangelism strategies?
11. If we are dishonoured for the sake of Christ, how should we respond? What parts of the Bible, other than this one, can encourage us?

12. Pray

## **Study 3 – “The Crowds”, Mark 6:30-56**

1. Pray
2. Conversation Starter: Describe a time you been insanely busy and desperately wanted space and time to yourself but couldn't get it.
3. Read Mark 6:30-56.
4. What stands out to you in this passage?
5. Is anything unclear or confusing in this passage?
6. What are the elements in this passage that happen more than once?
7. What do we learn about leadership from this passage?



8. The shepherd leadership motif is significant in the Bible. Divide into pairs or triplets, and assign each group to read one of the passages below. Then, come back and share your insights with the wider group:
  - a. Psalm 23
  - b. Isaiah 40:10-11
  - c. Ezekiel 34:7-16
  - d. John 10:7-16
  
9. How does the metaphor of the shepherd help us understand what good leadership is?
  
10. What do you think is the meaning of the ‘feeding of the five thousand’?
  
11. Even Jesus needed to take time out to pray. Why do you think this is?
  
12. What is your prayer life currently like?
  
13. What are some ways we can increase our motivation and our endurance in prayer?

14. What stops us praying?
  
15. Tim Chester in his book *You Can Pray*, warns us against thinking that prayer is about ‘technique’. He writes: “[T]here’s no such thing as bad prayer. Prayer is not something you can be good or bad at, not a skill to master or a discipline to practice. It’s more like being a passenger in a car. I can choose to get in the car or not.”<sup>1</sup> Do you agree with this statement? How might this shape the way we pray?
  
16. How does the story of the miraculous feeding link to the walking on water? What do they have in common?
  
17. Pray

---

<sup>1</sup> Tim Chester, *You Can Pray*, (2014), p. 37.

## Study 4 – “Dirty Hypocrites, Clean Beggars”, Mark 7:1-37

1. Pray
2. Conversation Starter: What was the worst thing you’ve had to clean? How did you clean it?
3. Flip back through the last few chapters of Mark. How has Mark been answering the questions “Who is Jesus?”
4. Read Mark 7:1-23

Ceremonial Washing: While not commanded by the Law, the Jews had developed many traditions they considered just as binding. Ceremonial washing of hands and dishes was not about hygiene but about purity and holiness.

a. Who has come to check out Jesus and what is their problem with him?

b. Why does Jesus answer so forcefully?

5. Read Isaiah 29:13-16

Corban: Dedication of items or money to God were described as *corban*. This was meant to show a thankfulness to God for his generosity. However, these things did not necessarily have to be used for religious purposes. An unscrupulous person could say something was corban, thus removing the need to use it for other responsibilities, and not give it to the temple and use it as they wished.

a. How does Isaiah 29 shape our understanding of Jesus' issue with the Pharisees and the teachers of the law?

b. What is the example Jesus uses to discredit the genuineness of their obedience? (v9-13) What does this show about their faith?

c. What does not make a person unclean? What does make a person unclean?

d. Can you think of a modern example of ways we might pay lip service to God but, in reality, live in selfishness?

- e. Look at the list in v21-22. Are any of these things a struggle for you? If so, how could they be dealt with?

6. Read Mark 7:24-37

- a. Who are the two people who come to Jesus for help?
  
- b. Jesus seems quite rude to the woman, what is he illustrating?
  
- c. This is the only place Jesus loses a verbal exchange, why is that?
  
- d. What does the Syro-Phoenician woman show us about God's plans for salvation?
  
- e. Why do you think Mark give us so much detail about the deaf man's healing?

f. What do these two stories have to show us about what Jesus has come to do?

g. Does this change how you see who Jesus is?

7. Pray