

Trees are for producing fruit. If a fruit tree doesn't produce fruit, it will be cut down. The same is true for us. God chose us so that we may bear fruit. Spend some time to evaluate your life. Are you bearing fruit? In what areas are you bearing fruit? In what areas do you need to bear more fruit? Pray and ask God to help you be fruitful by redeeming the time and using it well to build His kingdom.

TAKEAWAY

Discussion Questions—Mark 11:12-14

- Why do you think Mark includes the detail that Jesus was hungry?
- What might the fig tree symbolize in the context of this passage?
- How does the note that “it was not the season for figs” affect your understanding of Jesus’ actions?

ANSWERS: 1) fig; 2) fruit

SERMON SERIES: GOSPEL OF MARK

Pastor Harry Jones

Sunday, September 14, 2025



Week 30: Jesus was Hungry (Mark 11:12-14)

THE NEW CITY CATECHISM

(Core doctrines of the Christian faith in a question-and-answer format)

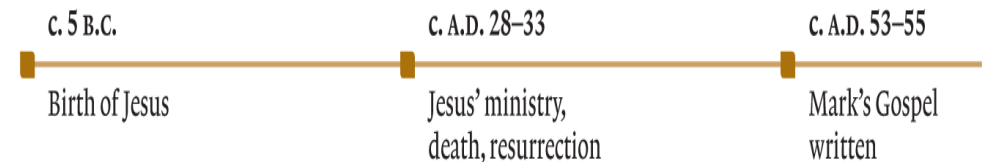
Question #8: What is the law of God stated in the Ten Commandments?

Answer: You shall have no other gods before me. You shall not make for yourself an idol in the form of anything in heaven above or on the earth beneath or in the waters below—you shall not bow down to them or worship them. You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. Honor your father and your mother. You shall not murder. You shall not commit adultery. You shall not steal. You shall not give false testimony. You shall not covet.

Exodus 20:3 “You shall have no other gods before me”.

Key memory verse: Mark 10:45 (ESV)

For even the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many”



OUTLINE

The Presentation of the servant	The servant's ministry in Galilee	The servant's journey to Jerusalem	The servant's ministry in Jerusalem
Mark 1:1-13	Mark 1:14-9:50	Mark 10	Mark 11-16

AUTHOR, DATE, AND RECIPIENTS

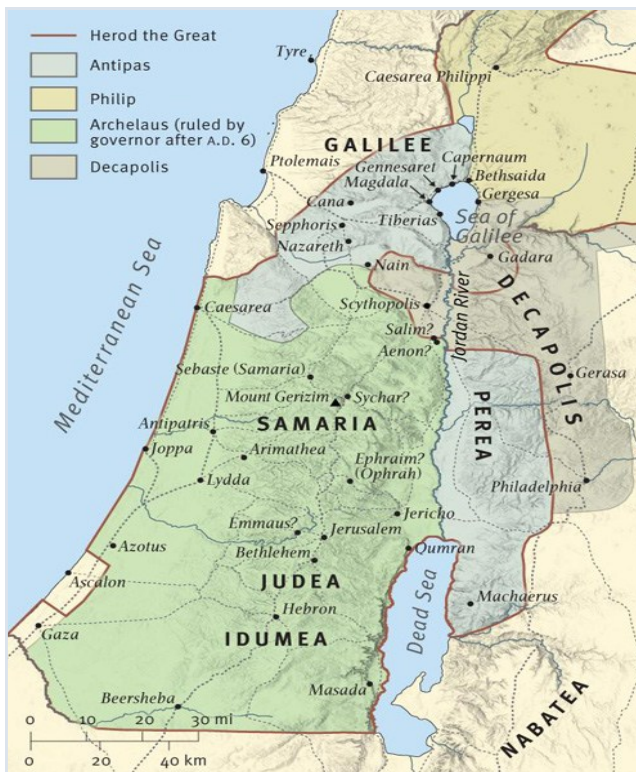
The apostle Peter passed on reports of the words and deeds of Jesus to his attendant, John Mark, who wrote this Gospel for the wider church as the record of Peter's apostolic testimony. The book was likely written from Rome during the mid- to late-50s A.D. (though the mid- or late-60s is also possible). Mark's audience, largely unfamiliar with Jewish customs, needed to become familiar with such customs in order to understand the coming of Jesus as the culmination of God's work with Israel and the entire world, so Mark explains them.

PURPOSE AND THEME

The ultimate purpose and theme of Mark's Gospel is to present and defend Jesus' universal call to discipleship. Mark returns often to this theme, categorizing his main audience as either followers or opponents of Jesus. Mark presents and supports this call to discipleship by narrating the identity and teaching of Jesus. For Mark, discipleship is essentially a relationship with Jesus, not merely following a certain code of conduct. Fellowship with Jesus marks the heart of the disciple's life, and this fellowship includes trusting Jesus, confessing him, observing his conduct, following his teaching, and being shaped by a relationship with him. Discipleship also means being prepared to face the kind of rejection that Jesus faced.

THE SETTING OF MARK

The events in the book of Mark take place almost entirely within Palestine, from Caesarea Philippi in the north to Beersheba in the south. During this time Palestine was ruled by the Roman Empire. The book opens with Jesus' baptism by John during the rule of Pontius Pilate and the tetrarchs Antipas and Philip. It closes with Jesus' death and resurrection about three years later.



Sermon Notes

1. Seeing from afar a _____ tree having leaves, He went to see if perhaps He would find something on it.
2. In response Jesus said to it, "Let no one eat _____ from you ever again".