



## Reading through the New Testament—Week 7

February 19-25, 2023

Reading Plan available on  
YouVersion Bible App  
(QR Code).



## *Becoming* more like Jesus—growing in His Word

**Diving Deeper:** As we continue reading through the New Testament together it may be useful to know some of the tools that can help us in our study and understanding of the scriptures that we are reading. Here are a few tools that can be found online for free (book copies are available and can be found on Amazon) and how they can be used:

**Concordance:** We believe that scripture interprets scripture. So if we find ourselves not understanding what is happening in a reading seeing what other scriptures are connected to the reading can be helpful. A concordance points us to scriptures that are similar or point to the same theme. The Treasury of Scripture Knowledge (TSK) is a great concordance tool. Check it out at [biblehub.com/tsk/mark/6-50.htm](http://biblehub.com/tsk/mark/6-50.htm)

**Word Studies:** If you're interested in how a certain word from your reading is used throughout scripture, check out Strong's Concordance. In this specific concordance each word of the Bible is given a number and categorized with other like words, helping us see a Bible-wide use of any particular word. Check it out at [biblehub.com/strongs/mark/6-50.htm](http://biblehub.com/strongs/mark/6-50.htm)

**Commentaries:** Commentaries give us a glimpse at how Biblical scholars view a given text. They can be helpful in gaining understanding of how original languages can be interpreted, and what themes scholars pull from a given text. Different commentaries help see the scriptures through different lenses. We look at the Concordia Commentary series to help us in our sermon preparation. Here is a link to notes that contain several commentaries at once: <http://pericope.org/buls-notes/index.html>

Stay tuned for more tools to come as we continue our journey together through the New Testament!

# **This Week's Sermon Outline**

## **Calming the Storm**

Mark 6:45-51

### **Storms of Life:**

Natural

Created

Forced

### **Disciples:**

He saw the disciples straining at the oars, because the wind was against them. Mark 6:48

### **Jesus:**

Greek: ἐγώ εἰμι

Not: Lego My Ego

“Take courage! **It is I.** Don't be afraid.” Mark 6:50

“Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, **for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go.**” Joshua 1:9

### **Our Lives:**

What storms are you facing?

### **Learning from Jesus:**





Identity:

Grace:

Encouragement:

## New Testament in a Year—February 19-25

Mark

Chapter 3  4  5  6  7 

### **Additional Reflections** from this week's reading

This week as you read, take note of the narratives or stories that stand out to you from each chapter. You can reflect on the readings by asking:

1. **What from this scripture stuck out to me?**
2. **So what connects into my life?**
3. **Now what is being asked of me?**
4. **Pray: God, what are you speaking into my life through this reading?**

**Mark 3:** From healing to accusations, this chapter helps us understand a little about the people who were surrounding Jesus, including the twelve apostles.

**Mark 4:** Remembering that a many of the parables in the Gospels can be defined as an earthly story with a heavenly meaning, what heavenly meanings do you glean from Jesus' parables in this chapter?

**Mark 5:** Jesus heals people from many different types of ailments, from physical and mental to spiritual. How do the healings seen in this chapter help us understand God's care for his people?

**Mark 6:** See sermon notes. If you missed this weekend's services, check them out on our YouTube Channel - [youtube.com/@stmfw](https://youtube.com/@stmfw).

**Mark 7:** The question posed at the beginning of this chapter shapes the narrative for the chapter, what defiles us? How does that question resonate with you?

## ***Belonging*** in Community

Connect groups are communities—a group of Christians who meet together regularly—where we intentionally share in our faith walk. Connection is created through commitment and presence in fellowship, discussion, and prayer.

- Begin your time together by following up on anything that was shared during your last time together.
- Do you have anything to share from your personal studies? Take some time to share any reflections or aha's you had from them.

God being who He is, changes who we are. Through prayer and obedience we are molded into the people God created us to be.

- Share about a time that God's character caused you to change your thoughts or behavior?

The fact that God doesn't change can seem intimidating but it can also bring us comfort. We know that God will always seek and choose justice. Because of Jesus paying the price for our sins we can also live in the grace that always comes through God's unchanging character.

A good acronym for grace is God's Riches At Christ's Expense. Take some time to discuss what riches we receive freely because of Christ.

- Share about a time you experienced God's grace.
- Share about a time you witnessed God's grace in another person's life?

Knowing that God's character will never change and that we can depend on Him to always offer His grace, consider why this would be an encouragement.

- Are there people around you that could be encouraged by hearing about the grace of God? Who are they and how can you take action in sharing with them?

Take some time to pray together as companions and friends.

## ***Blessing*** the World

We see through the stories of Jesus that the disciples connect with the people walking alongside them, helping them anchor their identity in Christ, know that they are covered in grace, and encouraging them in their relationship with Jesus. Who are three people in your life that you can do the same for this week:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

God, use me to be your hands and feet to \_\_\_\_\_ this week. Amen.