

GOSPEL OF
MARK

FAMILY GUIDE



GOALS FOR THE YEAR

- Learn about the Bible and the role of Holy Tradition
 - Encourage parents to read the Gospel of Mark, along with other stories of the Bible, regularly with their family
 - Prepare and encourage children to have weekly Sunday discussions with their parents about each week's topic during the car ride home
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St. John Chrysostom teaches us in “An Address on Vainglory & the Right Way for Parents to Bring Up Their Children”:

1. TELL OUR CHILDREN A STORY FROM THE BIBLE
2. THEN RETELL THE SAME STORY TO YOUR CHILD, UNTIL THEY KNOW IT WELL
3. ASK YOUR CHILD TO NARRATE IT BACK TO YOU
4. EXPLAIN THE STORY AND HOW IT BENEFITS THEM
5. “THIS IS NOT ALL. GO, LEADING HIM BY THE HAND IN CHURCH AND PAY HEED PARTICULARLY WHEN THIS TALE IS READ ALOUD. THOU WILT SEE HIM REJOICE AND LEAP WITH PLEASURE BECAUSE HE KNOWS WHAT THE OTHER CHILDREN DO NOT KNOW, AS HE ANTICIPATES THE STORY, RECOGNIZES IT, AND DERIVES GREAT GAIN FROM IT. AND HEREAFTER THE EPISODE IS FIXED IN HIS MEMORY.”

RESOURCES

We will be using the **Orthodox Study Bible** with children grades 3 and up. **Please remind them to bring their Bible with them to Sunday School each week!**

For children in grades 2 and younger, we will be predominately using the **Orthodox Children's Bible**. We will also be supplementing with **stories about the saints of the Bible** from Potamitis Publishing and *101 Orthodox Saints* from Ancient Faith Publishing.

Dr. Jeannie Constantinou has an excellent podcast series on the Bible called, "**Search the Scriptures**" found on Ancient Faith Radio or via the AFR app. <https://www.ancientfaith.com/podcasts/searchthescriptures> and also found here <https://orthodoxbiblestudy.info>

The Greek Orthodox Archdiocese has an archived video webinar with Dr. Constantinou called, "**Introducing Our Children to the Bible.**" <https://www.goarch.org/-/introducing-our-children-to-the-bible>

"**The Explanation of the Holy Gospel According to St. Mark**" by Blessed Theophylact is a helpful commentary on the Gospel of Mark as well.

Another great resource is Fr. Lawrence Farley's book, "**The Gospel of Mark: the Suffering Servant.**"

WEEKLY SUNDAY SCHOOL TOPICS: GOSPEL OF MARK

WEEK 1	Introduction to the Bible - Part 1
WEEK 2	Introduction to the Bible - Part 2
WEEK 3	Oral Tradition within the Context of Holy Tradition
WEEK 4	Introduction to the Four Gospels
WEEK 5	Life of Saint Mark
WEEK 6	Introduction to the Gospel of Mark
WEEK 7	Mark 1 - Preparation for Ministry
WEEK 8	Mark 2 - Israel is Divided Over Jesus' Authority
WEEK 9	Mark 3 - Jesus and the People: Followers, Foes, Family
WEEK 11	Mark 4 - Jesus the Teacher
WEEK 12	Mark 5 - Jesus the Messiah
WEEK 13	Mark 6 - Nazareth Divided: Doubters and Disciples; Saint John the Baptist Beheaded
WEEK 14	Mark 7 - Jesus Relates to the Jews; Jesus Relates to the Gentiles
WEEK 15	Mark 8 - Jesus Relates to the Gentiles; the Glory of the Kingdom Revealed
WEEK 16	Mark 9 - The Glory of the Kingdom Revealed; The Response of This World

WEEK 17	Mark 10 - On Marriage, Little Children, Wealth, and Greatness
WEEK 18	Mark 11 - Messiah Made Manifest: As King, as High Priest, as Prophet
WEEK 19	Mark 12 - The Jews Confront Jesus; Jesus Answers the Jews
WEEK 20	Mark 13 - Jesus Predicts the End Times
WEEK 21	Mark 14 - Betrayal & Passover Meal; The Passion: Gethsemane; Trials Before Jews and Gentiles
WEEK 22	Mark 15 - Trials Before Jews & Gentiles; Crucifixion; Burial Mark 16 - The Resurrection
WEEK 22	One Year in Review
WEEK 23	End of Sunday School Year