**The Secret of the Kingdom**

Whole Bible Series

Sermon 37: Mark

McDonald Bible Methodist

Pastor Joey Ratcliff

January 3, 2021

**SERMON NOTES**

*Big Idea: Mark makes plain through Jesus’ life story that He truly was the Son of God.*

1. **Jesus’ Life Revealed the Secret[[1]](#footnote-2)**
   1. He completes His mission (1:12)

**Titles of Jesus**

Teacher/Rabbi (4:38; 9:5)

Son of David (10:47)

Christ/Messiah (9:41)

Lord (5:19)

Son of Man (2:10)

Son of God (1:1).

* 1. He forgives sins (2:10)
  2. He defines the Sabbath (2:27-28)
  3. His works have “immediate” results (1:42; 5:29; 5:42; etc.)
  4. He subjugates nature (4:35-41)
  5. He is crucified (15:33-38)
  6. He resurrects Himself (16:6)

*The crucifixion was not proof against Jesus’s identity. Rather, it confirmed that He was the foretold Messiah-sacrifice from heaven.*

1. **Jesus is Recognized as Son of God**
   1. By demons (1:24; 3:11; 5:7)
   2. By the Father’s voice from Heaven (1:11; 9:7)
   3. **By Peter (8:29)** *– The turning point of the book!*
   4. By lepers (1:40), the unclean (5:34), foreigners (7:24-30), the blind (10:52), and the poor (12:41-44)[[2]](#footnote-3)
   5. By the Roman Centurion (15:39)

*The Kingdom belongs to those who accept the King*

*and His Kingdom through simple faith! (10:14-15)*

**The Decision:** Will you accept this truth of the Kingdom, taking up your cross to follow in the steps of the King? (8:34)

**Questions for Small Groups or Individual Study**

**Bible study: Son of Man**

Does “Son of Man” simply indicate that Jesus was a human? Compare Mark 13:26 and 14:62 with Daniel 7:13. Is the “Son of Man” in Daniel 7 an ordinary human, or an exalted person?

Read the following passages and make a list of the activities that Jesus associates with the title “Son of Man”: Mark 8:31; 8:38; 9:12, 31; 10:33, 45; 13:26; 14:21, 41; 14:62.

1. Have you ever looked at Mark as an extended argument for Jesus’ being the Son of God? How does that perspective affect how you read the book?
2. If you were going to argue Jesus’ death on cross as confirming His messianic identity (rather than disproving it), what arguments would you make? Do you think Mark makes any of those arguments?
3. Discuss two of the most powerful realizations in the book: Peter’s (8:29) and the centurion’s (15:39). How does each of them serve as a powerful witness to the identity of Jesus?
4. Read Mark 8:34-38. What is required of the one who is ready to embrace the truth of Jesus’ identity?

**Prayer from Mark**

“Jesus, I recognize that you truly are the Son of God. Help me to follow you in your path of suffering, submitting as you did to the leadership of the Spirit, no matter where my obedience takes me.”

1. List of actions and titles in text box taken from James R Edwards, “Mark,” in *The Baker Illustrated Bible Commentary,* pg. 1008. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Ibid., 1009. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)