

THE BOOK OF MARK

Have Life Church – Virtual Bible Study: Mark 4

In Mark 4, we see JESUS teaching in parables to reveal the mysteries of the Kingdom of God. Mark 4 emphasizes that JESUS desires for us to understand but understanding requires the right posture of heart. Through the parable of the sower, we learn that the condition of our ground determines our fruit. Through the lamp, we see that GOD reveals what is hidden. Through the mustard seed, we are reminded that small beginnings carry great Kingdom impact. And through the calming of the storm, we recognize that it is possible to be in the presence of JESUS and still lack full revelation of who HE is.

Quote:

“Parables were not meant to make truth clear to everyone; they were meant to reveal truth to believers and conceal it from unbelievers.”
- John MacArthur

Dr. Sho’s Big Point:

In our continued study of the Book of Mark, we see JESUS teaching in parables to reveal the mysteries of the Kingdom of God. Mark 4 emphasizes that JESUS desires for us to understand but understanding requires the right posture of heart. Through the parable of the sower, we learn that the condition of our ground determines our fruit. Through the lamp, we see that GOD reveals what is hidden. Through the mustard seed, we are reminded that small beginnings carry great Kingdom impact. And through the calming of the storm, we recognize that it is possible to be in the presence of JESUS and still lack full revelation of who HE is.

Mark 4:10 – 11(Part A) NLT

10 Later, when Jesus was alone with the twelve disciples and with the others who were gathered around, they asked him what the parables meant.

11 He replied, “You are permitted to understand the secret of the Kingdom of God.

Teaching Points

1. JESUS Wants You To Understand
2. The Parable of the Farmer Scattering Seed
3. The Parable of the Lamp
4. The Parable of the Mustard Seed
5. JESUS Calms the Storms

Parallel Reading: Consider the following chapters for additional Bible study to parallel Mark 4:

- Understanding and Revelation
[Matthew 13:10–17](#) | [Luke 24:45](#) | [James 1:5](#) | [1 Corinthians 2:10–14](#)
- The Condition of the Heart / Being Planted
[Psalm 1:1–3](#) | [Jeremiah 17:7–8](#) | [Hosea 10:12](#) | [John 15:4–5](#)
- Proximity Does Not Equal Intimacy
[Matthew 7:21–23](#) | [John 6:66–69](#) | [Mark 6:51–52](#)
- Light Reveals All Things
[Daniel 2:22](#) | [Ephesians 5:13](#) | [John 16:13](#) | [1 Corinthians 4:5](#)