



kids

| K-3RD

# EZEKIEL + MARK

A BIBLE READING WORKBOOK

WEEKS 1-4

## HEARING FROM GOD TOGETHER THROUGH SCRIPTURE

### USING THIS WORKBOOK

This guide will take you through 12 weeks of Bible reading. There are five readings each week. Each time you read, ask the Holy Spirit to talk to you. The Holy Spirit can help you know God better by reading the Bible.

### READING THE BOOK OF MARK

The book of Mark is about Jesus. When you read, think about what kind of person Jesus is. What does he like? What makes him angry? What would it be like to spend time with him?

### READING THE BOOK OF EZEKIEL

The book of Ezekiel is about a prophet. Prophets tell people what God is thinking and feeling and doing. Ezekiel tells God's people that God is unhappy because they are not loving God very well. Instead, they are sinning and hurting themselves and other people. Pay attention - because even though they are doing bad things, God never leaves them!

## WEEK 1 DAY 1

### READING EZEKIEL 1:1-21

One day, God gave Ezekiel a vision. He saw a bright light in a windstorm full of lightning. He also saw the shape of four living creatures. Each had four faces and four wings. Above them was a beautiful sapphire throne. The creatures moved in all directions at once and when they moved, Ezekiel heard the roar of rushing water. When Ezekiel saw this vision, he fell on his face. He knew this was what God's glory was like.

### REFLECTION

Can you use your imagination to draw what Ezekiel saw that day?

## WEEK 1 DAY 2

### READING MARK 1:1-15

At that time Jesus came from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to the place where John was. John baptized Jesus in the Jordan River. When Jesus was coming up out of the water, he saw heaven open. The Holy Spirit came down on him like a dove. A voice came from heaven and said: "You are my Son and I love you. I am very pleased with you."

### REFLECTION

Whose voice do you think Jesus heard from heaven? If you heard a voice from heaven, what would you want to hear?

## WEEK 1 DAY 3

### READING MARK 1:16-28

When Jesus was walking by Lake Galilee, he saw Simon and Simon's brother, Andrew. They were fishermen and were throwing a net into the lake to catch fish. Jesus said to them, "Come and follow me. I will make you fishermen for men." So Simon and Andrew immediately left their nets and followed him.

Jesus continued walking by Lake Galilee. He saw two more brothers, James and John, the sons of Zebedee. They were in their boat, preparing their nets to catch fish. Their father Zebedee and the men who worked for him were in the boat with the brothers. When Jesus saw the brothers, he called them to come with him. They left their father and followed Jesus.

### REFLECTION

In this reading, we see a few people say "yes" when Jesus calls them. Have you ever said "yes" to Jesus? What did you say "yes" to?

## WEEK 1 DAY 4

### READING MARK 1:29-45

Jesus and his followers left the synagogue. They all went at once with James and John to the home of Simon and Andrew. Simon's mother-in-law was sick in bed with a fever. The people there told Jesus about her. So Jesus went to her bed, took her hand, and helped her up. Immediately the fever left her, and she was healed. Then she began serving them.

### REFLECTION

What do you think the woman might have said to Jesus when she was healed? What would you say if you were healed.

## WEEK 1 DAY 5

### READING MARK 2:1-12

A few days later, Jesus came back to Capernaum. The news spread that he was home. So many people gathered to hear him preach that the house was full. There was no place to stand, not even outside the door. Jesus was teaching them. Some people came, bringing a paralyzed man to Jesus. Four of them were carrying the paralyzed man. But they could not get to Jesus because of the crowd. So they went to the roof above Jesus and made a hole in the roof. Then they lowered the mat with the paralyzed man on it. Jesus saw that these men had great faith. So he said to the paralyzed man, “Young man, your sins are forgiven.” ...[Then] Jesus said to the paralyzed man, “I tell you, stand up. Take your mat and go home.” Immediately the paralyzed man stood up. He took his mat and walked out while everyone was watching him.

### REFLECTION

Did you notice what happened first - Jesus forgiving sins or Jesus healing the man's body? If you were the man, which one would have felt better to you? Why?

## WEEK 2 DAY 1

### READING EZEKIEL 3:4-15

Then God said to me, “God speak to my people, Israel. Tell them they don't obey me anymore. They are stubborn. They won't listen to you either, but I will make you brave.”

This made me unhappy, but I felt God's power and went to find the other captives.

### REFLECTION

What does it feel like when people don't listen to you? How do you think Ezekiel felt when he heard that nobody was going to listen to him?



ANGRY



NEUTRAL



AFRAID



HAPPY



SAD

## WEEK 2 DAY 2

### READING MARK 2:13-22

Later that day, Jesus ate at Levi's house. There were many tax collectors and "sinners" eating there with Jesus and his followers. Many people like this followed Jesus. The teachers of the law who were Pharisees saw Jesus eating with the tax collectors and "sinners." They asked his followers, "Why does he eat with tax collectors and sinners?"

Jesus heard this and said to them, "Healthy people don't need a doctor. It is the sick who need a doctor. I did not come to invite good people. I came to invite sinners."

### REFLECTION

One time, I heard a Kindergarten student say, "Jesus is a forever doctor. He fixes our hearts." What do you think she meant?

## WEEK 2 DAY 3

### READING MARK 2:23-28

On the Sabbath day, Jesus was walking through some grainfields. His followers were with him and picked some grain to eat. The Pharisees saw this and said to Jesus, "Why are your followers doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?"...

Then Jesus said to the Pharisees, "The rules for the Sabbath day were made to help people."

### REFLECTION

When Jesus lived on earth, people followed a lot of rules. These rules helped them to connect with God. But when Jesus came, people could connect with God in a new way: by knowing Jesus. What would it have been like to walk through a field with Jesus? What would you want to know about Jesus?

## WEEK 2 DAY 4

### READING MARK 3:1-12

Then he went back in the meeting place where he found a man with a crippled hand. The Pharisees had their eyes on Jesus to see if he would heal him, hoping to catch him break a rule on the Sabbath. He said to the man with the crippled hand, “Stand here where we can see you.”

Then he spoke to the people: “What kind of action should we do on the Sabbath? Doing good or doing evil? Helping people or leaving them helpless?” No one said a word.

He looked them in the eye, one after another, angry now, even furious. He said to the man, “Hold out your hand.” He held it out—it was as good as new! The Pharisees got out as fast as they could, sputtering about how they would join forces with Herod’s followers and ruin him.

### REFLECTION

Have you ever felt angry about something good happening to another person? These Pharisees were mad at Jesus because they thought they knew about how God worked and Jesus was changing everything. What would you say to the Pharisees if you were there when this happened?

## WEEK 2 DAY 5

### READING MARK 3:13-19

Jesus chose 12 men and called them apostles. He wanted these to be with him, and he wanted to send them to other places to preach. He also wanted them to have the power to force demons out of people. These are the 12 men he chose: Simon (Jesus gave him the name Peter); James and John, the sons of Zebedee (Jesus gave them the name Boanerges, which means “Sons of Thunder”); Andrew, Philip, Bartholomew, Matthew, Thomas, James the son of Alphaeus, Thaddaeus, Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot. Judas is the one who gave Jesus to his enemies.

### REFLECTION

This is the list of people Jesus picked to hang out with and minister to others with. Who are your people - who helps you love other people?

## WEEK 3 DAY 1

### READING EZEKIEL 3:16-27

Seven days later, God spoke to me again. He said, “Your job is to warn people. Warn people that sin is harmful. If they don’t listen to you, it’s not your fault if they get hurt. But if you don’t warn them and they get hurt, it will be your fault. Some of the people you warn will listen, and their lives will be better. You will have helped them.”

### REFLECTION

Have you ever had a friend listen to you? How did it feel when they listened? How does it feel when people don’t listen to you?

## WEEK 3 DAY 2

### READING MARK 3:20-35

Then Jesus’ mother and brothers arrived. They stood outside and sent someone in to tell him to come out. Many people were sitting around Jesus. They said to him, “Your mother and brothers are waiting for you outside.”

Jesus asked, “Who is my mother? Who are my brothers?” Then Jesus looked at those sitting around him. He said, “Here are my mother and my brothers! My true brother and sister and mother are those who do the things God wants.”

### REFLECTION

One thing Jesus does is welcome people into God’s BIG family. He lets people know the way to God. Would you like to be in God’s family? Ask Him!

## WEEK 3 DAY 3

### READING MARK 4:1-20

Another time Jesus began teaching by the lake. A great crowd gathered around him. So he got into a boat and went out on the lake. All the people stayed on the shore close to the water. Jesus used many stories to teach them. He told one story about a farmer who planted seeds. Some of the seeds grew into plants and some didn't. Later, he told his disciples that some people will listen to God's teaching and grow like the plants. Some people will not listen, so they will not grow.

### REFLECTION

Jesus tells a story about listening to God's teachings. Where do you hear God's teachings? What do you do after you hear them?

## WEEK 3 DAY 4

### READING MARK 4:21-29

Then Jesus said, "The kingdom of God is like a man who plants seed in the ground. The seed comes up and grows night and day. It doesn't matter whether the man is asleep or awake; the seed still grows. The man does not know how it grows. Without any help, the earth produces grain. First the plant grows, then the head, and then all the grain in the head. When the grain is ready, the man cuts it. This is the harvest time."

### REFLECTION

Jesus tells another story about seeds! In this one, Jesus reminds us that people can't grow seeds without help from the earth. We also need help from God. Ask God to help you with something today and see how it goes!

## WEEK 3 DAY 5

### READING MARK 4:30-41

That evening, Jesus said to his followers, “Come with me across the lake.” He and the followers left the people there. They went in the boat that Jesus was already sitting in. There were also other boats with them. A very strong wind came up on the lake. The waves began coming over the sides and into the boat. It was almost full of water. Jesus was at the back of the boat, sleeping with his head on a pillow. The followers went to him and woke him. They said, “Teacher, do you care about us? We will drown!”

Jesus stood up and commanded the wind and the waves to stop. He said, “Quiet! Be still!” Then the wind stopped, and the lake became calm.

Jesus said to his followers, “Why are you afraid? Do you still have no faith?”

The followers were very afraid and asked each other, “What kind of man is this? Even the wind and the waves obey him!”

### REFLECTION

Have you ever been afraid of something and forgotten to tell Jesus about it. It seems like the disciples waited until the boat was almost full of water to go tell Jesus about their problem. Do you have any problems that you can tell Jesus about right now? He is close to you, just like he was close to the disciples.

## WEEK 4 DAY 1

### READING EZEKIEL 5:1-17

Ezekiel told the people, “ This is what God say: You are more evil than the nations around you. You keep doing things I hate. You worship idols and you say that I have abandoned you. Because of this, I will punish you. Many of you will die from diseases or hunger. Many of you will be killed by other nations. The rest of you will scatter. Then you will know how strongly I felt about your sin.”

### REFLECTION

It can be hard to think about how angry God was. It is ok to feel confused or sad about God saying he would kill people. Tell God if you feel that way. Ask God to help you understand his anger and his love, and how big they both are.

## WEEK 4 DAY 2

### READING MARK 5:1-20

Jesus met a man who was suffering very much. Evil spirits were making him hurt himself. Jesus healed the man. Then the man wanted to travel with Jesus.

But Jesus would not allow the man to go. Jesus said, “Go home to your family and friends. Tell them how much the Lord has done for you and how he has had mercy on you.” So the man left and told the people in the Ten Towns about the great things Jesus had done for him. All the people were amazed.

### REFLECTION

Sometimes, when Jesus helps us, it makes us want to spend more time with him. Can you think of a way that Jesus has helped you?

## WEEK 4 DAY 3

### READING MARK 5:21-34

A woman was there who had been bleeding for the past 12 years. She had suffered very much. Many doctors had tried to help her. She had spent all the money she had, but she was not improving. She was getting worse. When the woman heard about Jesus, she followed him with the people and touched his coat. The woman thought, “If I can even touch his coat, that will be enough to heal me.” When she touched his coat, her bleeding stopped. She could feel in her body that she was healed.

At once Jesus felt power go out from him. So he stopped and turned around. Then he asked, “Who touched my clothes?”

The followers said, “There are so many people pushing against you! And you ask, ‘Who touched me?’”

But Jesus continued looking around to see who had touched him. The woman knew that she was healed. So she came and bowed at Jesus’ feet. Shaking with fear, she told him the whole story. Jesus said to the woman, “Dear woman, you are made well because you believed. Go in peace. You will have no more suffering.”

### REFLECTION

The woman in this story had so much faith! Is there anything you would like to ask Jesus to fix or heal? Maybe you feel like you don’t have as much faith as this woman. That’s another thing you can ask God for - more faith!

## WEEK 4 DAY 4

### READING MARK 5:1-20

Jesus was still speaking to her when some men came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue ruler. The men said, “Your daughter is dead. There is now no need to bother the teacher.”

But Jesus paid no attention to what the men said. He said to the synagogue ruler, “Don’t be afraid; only believe.”

Jesus let only Peter, James, and John the brother of James go with him to Jairus’s house. They came to the house of the synagogue ruler, and Jesus found many people there crying loudly. There was much confusion. Jesus entered the house and said to the people, “Why are you crying and making so much noise? This child is not dead. She is only asleep.” But they only laughed at Jesus. He told all the people to leave. Then he went into the room where the child was. He took the child’s father and mother and his three followers into the room with him. Then he took hold of the girl’s hand and said to her, “Talitha, koum!” (This means, “Little girl, I tell you to stand up!”) The girl stood right up and began walking. (She was 12 years old.) The father and mother and the followers were amazed. Jesus gave the father and mother strict orders not to tell people about this. Then he told them to give the girl some food.

### REFLECTION

Jesus is so powerful that he can undo death. Use your imagination to think about this little girl’s thoughts and feelings on this day of her life. What would she think of Jesus? What would it be like to be her?

## WEEK 4 DAY 5

### READING MARK 6:1-13

Jesus left there and went back to his hometown. His followers went with him. On the Sabbath day he taught in the synagogue. Many people heard him and were amazed. They said, “Where did this man get these teachings? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? And where did he get the power to work miracles? He is only the carpenter. His mother is Mary. He is the brother of James, Joseph, Judas, and Simon. And his sisters are here with us.” The people did not accept Jesus.

### REFLECTION

It is interesting that the people who knew Jesus as a kid had a hard time believing he was God. What would it have felt like to have Jesus for a brother? Do you think you would have recognized that Jesus was more than just human? How?

**MERCY**  
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