

Victory By: The Gospel of Mark

A study for Community Groups to use the week of August 23rd

To prepare for your group discussion each week, group members should use the **Series Guide** below along with the foundational questions we ask each week.

Week 28: Mark 13:1-37

Overview

Mark doesn't just tell us what Jesus did; he shows us who Jesus is in a way that forces us to rethink the world we're living in and the stories we're being sold every day.

"The first word of the discourse proper means "take heed" (Gr. *blepete*). This word occurs four times in the following verses indicating that warning is an important theme (vv. 9, 23, 33). Here Jesus warned the disciples about people who would claim to be the Messiah. There would be many of them before He would return. Mark's "I am" is a divine name (cf. Exod. 3:14; John 8:58). Jesus said these false Messiahs would claim to be God as well as Messiah." – **Constable Notes**

Questions

*In the Series Guide you will find basic questions we want all to use as they begin to look at the passage. Questions such as; *Who have you had the opportunity to BLESS this week? What does this passage reveal about God? About people? About the life He has planned for us?* These additional questions relate to the passage specifically for your benefit.

- Jesus tells His followers to pay attention without letting fear take over. What might your fears about the future reveal about where you're placing your hope? How does this passage challenge that?
- Jesus says, "Do not worry beforehand about what to say... for it is not you speaking, but the Holy Spirit" (v.9-11). What does this teach us about our responsibility versus God's responsibility? Where might fear or feeling unprepared be keeping you from faithfully stepping into an opportunity God has given you?
- We see later in Mark 13, Jesus repeatedly tells His followers to "keep watch" while faithfully carrying out what He has given them to do. What does it look like to spiritually "fall asleep" while waiting for Jesus? What has He given you to faithfully do in this season?